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20p

Tory initiative on election may be lost, MPs fear

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Conservative MPs, after a week of growing excitement at the prospect of a June general election, were by last night seriously concerned that the Prime Minister might have lost the initiative.

They believe that the assembly of senior advisers at Chequers on Sunday, and the fact that it is known, may make imperative an announcement by Mrs Margaret Thatcher early next week.

If so, and if her preference after full consideration is to go to the country in late June, then she is in danger of giving the Opposition parties six or seven weeks' notice of an election.

She has had strong advice from within the party that to give more than the four weeks' notice required by statute would particularly help the Liberals and Social Democrats, who can expect increased exposure to public view during a campaign.

It is now known that Mrs Thatcher received advice from some quarters earlier in the week to cancel the Chequers consultations so that this danger might be avoided, but she was not persuaded.

She takes the view that weekend meetings with senior ministers, which first took place regularly in the relaxed setting of Chequers during the Falklands war and have been repeated from time to time since, are specially valuable and she does not intend to be deprived of the chance of a first detailed consideration, in the light of today's local election results, of the election options.

Those in the party who a week ago were complaining that it was unwise of the Prime Minister to allow the local elections to be seen as the prologue to an announcement, now make the same complaint about Chequers.

The message of the past 48 hours, made on the Prime Minister's behalf, that no announcement of any kind should necessarily be looked for next week, has been delivered too late for Conservative backbenchers who last night dismissed the notion that silence could or should be kept.

The cast list for Chequers, meanwhile, has been enlarged to include not only Mr William Whitelaw, deputy leader of the party, Mr Cecil Parkinson, party chairman, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, but also Mr John Biffen, leader of the Commons, Mr Michael Jopling, Chief Whip, and Mr Ian Gow, the Prime Miniser's parliamentary private secretary, whose judgment she values highly. Others may also attend.

The evidence is that this gathering will help Mrs Thatcher to give serious formal consideration for the first time to the advisability of a June election. She has been seeking and receiving unsought informal advice for weeks.

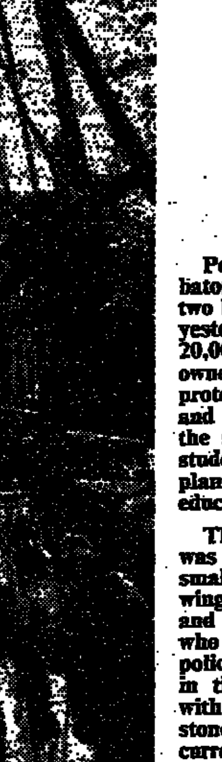
The reason why no one so far has been able to detect her intentions is that up to last night she had formed none. In the Commons yesterday shhe showed a weary contempt as the twice-weekly probing was tried. When Mr Michael Foot asked about a newspaper report that Mr Whitelaw had revealed the date as June 9, a report since denied, Mrs Thatcher said that his question did not merit a reply.

One rather more substantial straw was in the wind yesterday after Mr Edwin Meese, a senior member of President Reagan's staff, met the Prime Minister and received her absolute assurance that she will have talks with the President, and Williamsburg, Virginia, for the economic "summit" from May 28 to 30.

This intelligence intensified discussion at Westminster of the feasibility of an election on June 9, the earliest possible date and one that many Conservatives favour.

The majority view was that the American visit so late in a campaign would be possible but on balance unwise, since three full campaigning days, excluding Sunday, would be lost and two others partly lost.

Mrs Thatcher's programme, which it was said last night could not be shortened, entails leaving London in the early evening of Thursday, May 26, and returning, at the earliest, by noon on Tuesday, May 31. The Williamsburg conference is due to end with a state banquet on the Monday night which she is said to be reluctant to miss.



Paris clashes: Small businessmen demonstrating against the Government's austerity measures yesterday break through police barricades.

Students attack French police

From Diana Geddes Paris

Police used teargas and batons in violent clashes with two big demonstrations in Paris yesterday. One involved some 20,000 shopkeepers and other owners of small businesses, protesting against price controls and other austerity measures, the second an estimated 8,000 students protesting against planned reforms of higher education.

The clash with the students was once again provoked by a small minority of extreme rightwingers, wearing crash helmets and scarves over their faces, who attacked the assembled riot police near the Pont d'Austerlitz in the Fourth Arrondissement with Molotov cocktails and stones. Similar incidents occurred last Friday.

The police responded with tear gas grenades, backed up by water cannons, while police motorcylists gave chase down the narrow streets near the Jardin des Plantes, where some students had erected barricades of burning tyres. First reports indicated that about 30 students were arrested. Three policemen were hurt.

The incidents broke out towards the end of the demonstartion at about 6 p.m. Earlier, thousands of students, mostly from Paris, but also from the provinces, had marched peacefully under banners insisting on their apolitical character.

"Neither Right nor Left, but united against the reform", the banners proclaimed, while students chanted the slogan that has become almost a signature tune of their demonstrations: "Hot, hot, the spring will be hot!

The clash with the shopkeepers, cafe owners, hairdressers, and other small businessmen came as demonstrators tried to break through police lines in an attempt to reach the headquarters of the government office of Trade and Commerce on the Quai Branly.

The enraged demonstrators hurled stones and other objects at the police, and erected a barricade across the Avenue Bosquet with paving stones and other material from nearby road-works.

As The mass protests continued throughout France, M *Pierre Mauroy, the Prime* Minister, insisted that there was no question of the Government's accepting any "slippage" in its economic targets. He hinted strongly at the possible introduction of new, even more stringent, austerity measures.

"The Mauroy plan, mark three, is still in force," he said in an interview with Agence France Presse. "I believe in the policy that I am pursuing. I am determined that it will succeed, and I am convinced that it will".

Referendum to decide on reforms

The South African Government's proposals for constitutional reform, involving three houses of parliament for whites, Coloureds and Asians, but not including Africans, were presented yesterday.

The Minister for Constitutional Development expects the proposals to be passed in the *current session of the whites*-only Parliament, but said that they would not become law until passed by a majority of white voters at a referendum

Details, page 6

Reagan saved on freeze vote

President Reagan was saved from another setback on the nuclear front by a Republican amendment which lessened the impact of the House of Representatives resolution for a mutual freeze **Page 6**

Oil venture

BP and a consortium led by Phillips Petroleum are to develop the Andrew oil field, which has estimated reserves of 140 million barrels, 120 miles from Aberdeen **page 15**

Bank doubts

Lord Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, questioned the wisdom of allowing building societies to compete directly with banks and insurance companies **Page 15**

Khyber trip

Princess Anne completed her visit to Pakistan yesterday by travelling up the Khyber Pass close to the Afghanistan border **Page 7**

Irish protest

The Irish Government has formally protested to Britian about criticism about Irish unity by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

Uproar in Dial, **page 2**

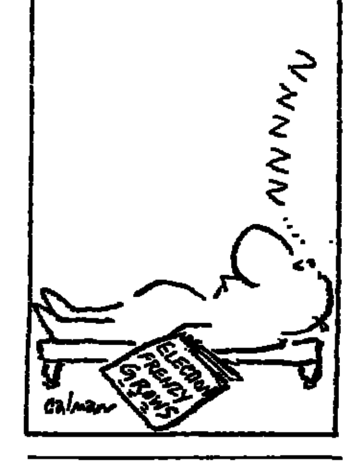
Jaguar roaring

Jaguar Cars is considering the reintroduction of a night shift at its Coventry plant to cope with record sales. Production will reach an estimated 28,000 cars this year **Page 2**

A £1.9m suit

An anonymous New York collector paid £1,925,000 at Sotherby's for a suit of armour made about 1550 for King Henry II of France in a £4m sale of pieces from Hever Castle

Back page





Labour strategists meet to plan marginal seats attack

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Labour Party strategists will formalize their plans today to win 105 key marginal seats which would take them within striking distance of a parliamentary majority.

Campaign organization for the general election is expected to dominate the two-day "summit of the Left", bringing together the Shadow Cabinet, union leaders and the party's national executive at the Woodstock *education college of the* General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Unions.

Strategy papers for the conference in the possession of *The Times* list the "target" marginals. Fifty-four were with by Conservatives in the May 1979 poll, two by nationalists and 49 by Labour. They must be retained if Mr Michael Foot is to have any chance of becoming Prime Minister.

If Labour's plan to win all those "category A" constituencies succeeds, Labour would emerge as the largest party in the Commons. Mr Foot would then be obliged to seek an accommodation with the smaller parties, or form a minority administration.

Exact comparisons with the last general election are impossible because of extensive changes in the boundaries of many constituencies. But using the authoritative calculations for the new parliament published in *The Almanac of British Politics* by Mr Robert Waller (Croom Helm £12.95), the marginals strategy, if successful would give Labour 313 seats in a 650-seat House of Commons. The Tories would become the second largest party, with 306 seats.

The list of marginals registers internal party anxiety about the possible impact of SDP influence in 15 constituencies, particularly in the London area, the South-west, East Midlands and new towns around the capital.

Labour's campaign paper also undermines the conventional wisdom that the party sees the West Midlands as pivotal to its election hopes. Only three Conservative seats are identified in that region as target constituencies, compared with twice as many in the East Midlands and nine in the politically-volatile Northwestern area.

The list, drawn up by Mr David Hughes, national agent of the party, in consultation with Labour's local agents, is supplemented by a "B" category table of just over 80 seats that would only be winnable in a landslide for the Left.

This table is certain to be revised in the light of yesterday's local elections, and in any event some of the seats it includes come into the wishful-thinking category – such as Banbury which has a Tory majority of 13,000.

Continued on back page, col 3

Shelling in Beirut worst since siege

From Katherine Dourian Beirut

Just when it appeared that diplomatic efforts to bring peace to Lebanon might bear fruit, Beirut came under the heaviest shelling yesterday since the Israeli siege last summer. Both Christian and Muslim sectors of the capital and its outskirts were struck by 120mm shells and mortar rounds.

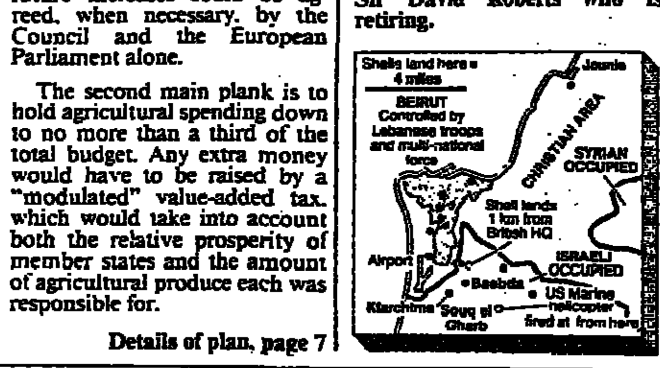
At least eight people were killed and 22 others wounded in the shelling that began without warning at 11.45am local time, catching most residents by surprise. One man was reportedly killed when a rocket smashed through his bathroom wall, killing him *instantly as he bathed*.

A US Marine Huey-type helicopter that took off from Beirut airport on a reconnaissance flight to determine the source of the shelling came under fire and had to turn back after the shots punched three holes *into* it. Colonel James Mead, commander of the US Marine contingent of the international peacekeeping force, was in the aircraft but neither he nor the pilot was hurt.

Major Fred Lasth, a spokesman for the Marines, said the 50 calibre rounds were fired from the mountain village of Souk el Gharb in the Israeli-occupied Aley district. The village is a stronghold of the Christian militia.

The shelling came after fighting had intensified this week between the right-wing Christian Lebanese Forces and the left-wing Druze of the Socialist Progressive Party. The fighting had been concentrated mainly in the mountains south-east of Beirut, occasionally spilling over to the south-eastern suburbs.

● **LONDON: Mr Nicholas Barrington, head of the British interests section at the Swedish Embassy in Tehran since 1981, has been appointed Ambassador to Lebanon in succession to Sir David Roberts who is retiring.**



Thatcher rejects Soviet proposals for missiles

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday rejected Soviet proposals to include the British strategic nuclear force within the Geneva talks over intermediate nuclear forces, although she welcomed the offer by Mr Andropov, the Soviet leder, to negotiate about the numbers of warheads rather than missiles.

As it was announced that MPs would be having a debate next Tuesday and Wednesday on defence and disarmament, Mr Thatcher and Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, clashed in the Commons over the Government's response to the Soviet move.

The Prime Minister said that the British nuclear deterrent was at the "irreducible minimum" after Mr Foot had argued that if the Government blocked the proposal to include the British nuclear force in the talks, the conference might be wrecked. He later described Mrs Thatcher's response as "hopelessly inadequate".

Mrs Thatcher had said it was totally wrong to suggest that Britain's last resort submarine-based nuclear weapons should be included in the INF talks which were about land-based weapons. "For the Soviet Union to suggest that and leave out of account her own strategic weapons is meant to delude the British public. It must not succeed in doing so," she said.

After Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democratic Party, had remarked that the Andropov move had been much more cooly received in London than in Washington, Mrs Thatcher welcomed the apparent Soviet concession on warheads. "That is what Nato has always wanted. That particular part of the proposal is to be welcomed."

She said she would not encourage President Reagan to take the advice of the House of Representatives in its vote yesterday to support a nuclear freeze. That, she said, would freeze in the superiority of the Soviet Union and hinder the objective of those who wanted genuine disarmament with reductions on both sides.

"To abandon our deterrent would be one-sided disarmament. The deterrent is the first and most important part of our defence."

Control of cruise is clarified

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

The controversy over the deployment of cruise missiles has led to clarification of the 1951 agreement with the United States governing the use of nuclear weapons based in Britain.

It has been established that the agreement for joint decision-taking would apply to cruise missiles, not only on their bases at Greenham Common and Molesworth, but also when deployed up to 100 miles away in times of tension.

The Government has rejected demands for "dual-key" control because it is satisfied with the 1951 agreement. However, it is understood that persistent questioning about the precise details of the agreement led to consultations with the American Government to make certain that it satisfactorily covered the mobile cruise missiles.

Until now the standard public reference to the 1951 agreement by the Prime Minister and others has been to the effect that the use of bases in Britain for mounting nuclear operations in an emergency would be a matter for joint decision by the Government and the United States Government in the light of the circumstances prevailing at the time.

However, it has been suggested that cruise missiles might be dispersed up to 100 miles from their bases.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said in Parliament on Tuesday that the 1951 agreement "specifically provides that no weapons or bases used by the Americans under agreements with us will be used without the joint decision of the President and the Prime Minister".

Fault found in deck of frigate

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has had to withdraw a frigate from service in the North Atlantic because of cracking in its upper deck. The ship, HMS Amazon, is one of six Type 21 frigates in the Royal Navy, all of which will need to have their hulls strengthened because of the problem of cracking.

The problem in the Type 21s has been known about for 18 months, and a programme had been instituted for strengthening them one at a time. Work on HMS Arrow has been virtually completed though she is still at Devonport dockyard.

HMS Amazon was scheduled to go into Devonport for refit in August, but has had to be prematurely withdrawn from service, apparently because the problem in her has developed either more rapidly or more seriously than had been foreseen.

The Type-21 was designed by Vosper Thornycroft in collaboration with Yarrow, and was the first class of warship for many years to be designed for the Royal Navy by commercial firms rather than by the Ministry of Defence's own design teams.

A controversial feature of the design was the use of aluminium in the upper parts of the ship, and it is believed to be in the aluminium that the cracking has occurred.

● HMS Ambuscade, a 2,815-ton Type 21 frigate, was in collision with a 5,760-ton American cruiser, the USS Dale, while they were on joint exercises in the Indian Ocean on April 27. The Ambuscade's bows were damaged, and she is being repaired in Bombay. The USS Dale was holed on the port side.

£350m for Britain in Robin Hood charter

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission presented its new "Robin Hood's charter" in Brussels yesterday, setting out what it described as the only possible solution for saving the EEC from bankruptcy. If accepted by member states, it would increase the Community's ability to spend by some £3,300m, at present levels.

The plan, which would basically take more from the rich countries to give to the poor, could reduce Britain's EEC budget deficit by between a third and a half. If it were implemented now, that would mean a saving of about £350m over the year.

The plan was necessary, Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission president, said, because the Community was on the point of running our of money, owing to "a disturbing increase" in agricultural expenditure. It was also high time for a better balance to be found between revenue and expenditure. The plan does not include specific new promises on how the extra money will be spent.

The main plank of the Commission's argument is that there must be an increase in the amount of money available for the Community budget. The Commission therefore wants member states to increase the amount of value-added tax revenue they pay into the budget from 1 per cent of their total receipts to 1.4 per cent.

Such an increase would have to be approved by parliaments in all member states, but the Commission is asking that future increases could be agreed, when necessary, by the Council and the European Parliament alone.

The second main plank is to hold agricultural spending down to no more than a third of the total budget. Any extra money would have to be raised by a "modulated" value-added tax, which would take into account both the relative prosperity of member states and the amount of agricultural produce each was responsible for.

Details of plan, page 7

Television row goes on

League may lose sponsor's £3m offer

The Football League announced yesterday that Canon (UK) Limited are to sponsor the League for £3m over the next three years. But the contract, the biggest in British sport, depends on the outcome of talks between the club chairmen and the television companies, which broke down yesterday.

The chairmen, who met in London, rejected the latest television proposals but voted unanimously for the management committee to renegotiate a new deal. The BBC and ITV, after hearing the decision, immediately withdrew their offer, worth a total of £5.4m over the next two seasons.

John Bromley, the head of sport at London Weekend, said: "We are further away from reaching agreement than we have ever been in the last seven months. Football has got to realize that it is no longer one of the great sports on television. It has lost its way and is gradually strangling itself to death."

Martin Walter, the chairman of Canon, commented: "If no television deal is agreed, obviously we will look at whether our sponsorship goes ahead. If there were a significantly lower amount of football on television next season, then we would have to look at the situation again."

The clubs will share £496,000 a year under the sponsorship deal, £10,000 for those in the first division, £6,000 for the second, £4,000 for the third and £2,000 for the fourth. Prize money of £214,000 is also offered as well as money for ground safety and youth schemes.

Diary tells of mother's death fear

Miss Beverley Brooke, who gave birth to a baby boy while she was on a life support machine in hospital, kept a diary detailing the events of the last few weeks before she died.

Miss Brooke, aged 19, died on Wednesday when doctors at Leeds General Infirmary turned off the machine 24 hours after her baby was born by caesarean section.

She describes in her diary the parting with the baby's father, who is not named. And she talks of her expectation that she was going to die as her head pains, double vision and dizziness grew worse in the month leading to the baby's birth.

Mrs Noelene Colley, Miss Brooke's mother, who lives at Dewsbury, said: "I have found Beverley's diary, but most of the contents are private.

"She describes the events of the weeks before her death. She was in hospital several times, but she discharged herself because she was not happy with the treatment she was getting. She told me she knew she was going to die."

Mrs Colley is calling for an inquiry into the case.

London taxi fares to go up

London taxi fares will go up from May 29. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary announced yesterday. The new tariff will incorporate a minimum fare of 60p (including a hiring charge of 40p) for the first 618 yards or two minutes, 12 seconds.

The rate will then be 10p for each 309 yards or one minute six seconds up to six miles and 10p for each 210 yards, or 48 seconds, thereafter. Except for the charge for hirings after midnight which will rise from 40p to 60p, the extra charges will remain unchanged.

Dock strike is over

A seven-week strike by 2,300 dock workers at Tilbury ended yesterday with both sides in the dispute claiming victory.

The men voted to return to work saying their claim for parity with white collar workers had been met, but the Port of London Authority say it has not been conceded.

Housekeeper gives up home

Mrs Adah Penny, aged 55, the £2.50-a-week housekeeper dismissed by the Dowager Lady Radnor after seeking a pay rise, has given up her home to avoid eviction proceedings.

A tribunal had rejected Mrs Penny's claim and awarded her £45 redundancy cash. Mrs Penny and her retired bricklayer husband were due to be taken to the county court at Salisbury, Wiltshire, today by Lady Radnor.

Candidate for Livingston

Mr Robin Cook, a Labour frontbencher, has been selected unopposed as party candidate for the new parliamentary constituency of Livingston, a seat for which Mr Wedgwood Benn's name had been actively canvassed, (Anthony Bevins writes).

Coal industry must abandon hopeless pits, chairman says

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Norman Siddall, chairman of the National Coal Board yesterday began a process of softening-up militant opinion among the miners, warning them that "we must pull of the hopeless pits".

Addressing the conference of the traditionally moderate Lancashire colliers, he said: "We are producing too much coal, too expensively". The coal glutt is likely to promt the closure of 15 pits with the loss of 15,000 jobs in 1983-84.

"I know that as trade unionists you do not enjoy seeing employment in the industry coming down. You naturally want there to be as many jobs as possible in coalmining.

"But they have to be real jobs, paying for themselves in terms of coal at prices the customer will be prepared to pay: jobs based on the highest efficiency we can achieve, in other words, jobs men will feel secure in."

The coal board does not expect any improvement in the overall demand for coal over the next year, and says that the continuing economic recession had invalidated the ambitious projections of demand drawn up with the previous Labour Government.

The NCB has spent £3,125m on modernizating deep mines, and will spend a further £745m this year as part of the long-term plan to bring into production 42 million tonnes of new capacity.

Mr Siddall added: "At the same time as we create highly efficient new capacity we must pull out of the hopeless pits which are preventing the industry from adapting itself to the needs of the market.

"We are producing too much coal, too expensively. In saying that, I am not blaming the men working in the problem pits. Over and over again we see the skill and effort of first-class men being wasted because of the physical problems, while elsewhere we are creating excellent conditions."

Since 1974-75 the industry had closed 63 pits employing about 23,000 men, but alternative jobs had been provided for about 15,000 and only 5,900 men had been made redundant. Of these, most were voluntary and more than 90 per cent were aged 55 and over.

The board's policy would be to treat as generously as possible everyman who was no longer able to continue working, Mr Siddall said.

Addressing the same conference, Mr David Lea, assistant general secretary of the TUC, said: "The last four year shave seen an unprecedented battering of our nationalized industries.

"We are now told that four years of this mayhem is only the beginning. We have been warned. If this lot get back, the mayhem of the next four year will make the past four look like merely a slight difference of opinion."

Jaguar sales boom may bring nightshift

By Clifford Webb

Jaguar Cars' remarkable recovery from losses of £2m a month only two years ago to record sales at home and overseas has so outstripped production that the company may be forced to introduce a night shift more than a year earlier than planned.

The Coventry plant has not operated a nightshift for more than four years. But production has increased from 14,000 cars in 1980 to 22,000 last year and will reach an estimated 28,000 this year. A peak production of 32,000 cars was reached in the 1970s, with double-shift work and 4,000 more employees.

Mr Jopn Egan, the chairman of Jaguar Cars, who was recently voted Midlander of the Year for restoring the fortunes of the midlands company, has always insisted that he would not make the mistake of his predecessors and increase his labour force to meet short-term sales booms.

But in the face of growing order books and lengthening delivery times it is now widely expected that he will have to act soon. The 7,200-strong work force is operating extensive overtime, including weekend work. Jaguar sales in the United States reached a record of 1,536 cars last month, an increase of 64 per cent on April, 1982, and equal to six months sales in 1980. From 3,000 that year, US sales rose to 4,200 in 1981 and 10,300 last year. The original forecast of 12,000 for this year is being revised to more than 14,000.

European sales in the first three months of this year increased by 58 per cent, with Germany leading the field. Jaguar admit, however, that it is starting from a very small base, with only 2,500 sales in the whole of Europe last year.

● Japanese cars assembled in Australia are to go on sale in Britain today against growing protests that they are a thinly disguised method of by-passing the ceiling on Japanese sales here, which restricts their quota to 11 per cent of the UK market.

The cars, called Lonsdales, are manufactured by Mitsubishi Motors in Adelaide, South Australia, and are said to contain 85 per cent Australian-made components.

Prices range from £5,699 for a 1.6 litre saloon to £8,299 for a 2.6 litre automatic estate.

● A British Leyland subsidiary, the Aveling Barford engineering works, in Grantham, issued redundancy notices yesterday to 800 of their 1,100 workers who had refused to accept a productivity deal to save the company.

The company produces equipment for the construction industry.



Corporal David Timms, one of those injured by an IRA bomb which killed seven members of the Royal Green Jackets band in Regent's Park, London, last year, among the relatives attending a memorial tree planting yesterday. Two weeping willows were planted near the bandstand by Mrs Sandra Barker widow of Sergeant-Major Graham Barker, and Mrs Dorothy Heritage (Photographs: Steve Blogg).

Ministers' nuclear war plea

By Nicholas Timmins

Two ministers are to address the British Medical Association's central committee for community medicine today to emphasize the need for civil defence planning in the event of nuclear war.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, who is responsible for civil defence, and Mr Geoffrey Finsberg, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health, are to address the community physicians, who play a key part in the health services' planning for a nuclear war, at the invitation of their chairman, Dr Stuart Horner.

Dr Horner was a member of the BMA working party which produced a highly critical report of the Government's civil defence plans in March.

With the approval of his committee's executive, he has tabled a motion for the BMA's annual representative meeting next month urging community physicians to take no further part in such plans until the criticisms in the BMA report have been met. The full committee will be asked to approve that motion today.

The report concluded that effective planning along the lines envisaged is not possible in the face of a large attack; that an attack with a single weapon on a city would overwhelm the whole National Health Service; and that deaths and injuries from a 200 megaton attack would be two to two and half times greater than those estimated by the Home Office.

The Home Office is revising its estimates

Uproar in Dail over Heseltine remarks

By Richard Ford

A dispute broke out in the Dublin Parliament yesterday over the critical remarks on Irish neutrality made in Belfast on Wednesday by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and as Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland arrived in the city for talks with governmment ministers.

During the rowdy exchanges in the Dail, Mr Charles Haughey, the Opposition leader, said that Mr Heseltine's remarks were "a blatant attack on Ireland's neutrality", and he urged Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Prime Minister, to make a strong protest to Mrs Margaret Thatcher about Mr Heseltine's "unwarranted intervention".

As the uprad conrtinued the Speaker said he could not allow the Chair to be bullied, and the sitting was adjourned for 20 minutes.

Afterwards Mr Haughey in a statement questioned whether D. FitzGerald should have met Mr Prior after the "offensive remarks made about Irish neutrality". He also questioned whether he should have met Mr Prior after a refusal of a formal request by Dr FitzGerald to meet Mrs Thatcher.

Meanwhile Mr Prior on his surprise visit to Dublin, which was aimed at improving Anglo-Irish relations, toured the Royal Dublin Show accompanied by Mr Peter Barry, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Later he met Dr FitzGerald and Mr Richard Spring, the Labour leader and deputy Prime Minister, for the first time since the Fine Gael-Labour coalition government came to power last December.

● Provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Provisional IRA, yesterday named 14 candidates who will stand at the general election in Northern Ireland in what promises to be a fascinating struggle with their rivals, the Social Democratic and Labour Party, for the nationalist vote.

Six Sinn Fein candidates have been convicted of terrorist offences and four are former internees, full details of which were given in the announcement.

● Ten men implicated in a series of alleged terrorist crimes by a self-confessed provisional IRA murderer who underwent a religious conversion while on the run went on trial in Belfast yesterday at the start of the third big case involving informers in the province.

Unlike the two previous cases, the informer, Kevin McGrady, aged 27, from the Markets area of Belfast, has not been granted immunity for his offences but is serving a life sentence in prison after admitting three murders and 24 other terrorist crimes.

The 10 men have denied all the charges, which include three murders, wounding with intent, attempted murder, possession of firearms, conspiracy to murder Sir Jamie Flanagan, the first Roman Catholic chief constable of the RUC, and membership of the Provisional IRA.

● Mr Raymond Dornan, aged 39, a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being seriously injured when a Provisional IRA booby-trap bomb exploded under his car.

Hitler art on display after 'test'

By Alan Hamilton

Forty-one paintings believed to be the work of Adolf Hitler, the minor Austrian watercolourist, went of show yesterday at Longleat House, Wiltshire, the home of Lord Bath.

He bought his first two "Hitlers" at Sotheby's for £600 the pair in 1960 to add to his collection of Churchill memorabilia. He decided to put his collection on public display for the first time in response to the current vogue for the work of Hitler, the diarist.

Lord Bath is reasonably convinced that his paintings are the work of Hitler, who was Chancellor of Germany from 1933 to 1945.

Most of the works are views fo old Vienna, believed to have been copied from postcards, and showing more prosaic talent for imitation than for any breadth of imagination.

There is one oil, a solid still life of roses. One water-colour depicting the Berchtesgarten mountain retreat tends towards the Victorian romanticism of Landeer.

There is also one work, almost in the nature of a cartoon, showing two German soldiers playing chess in the Great War trenches at Douamont, said to have been painted by the artist for his mother.

During his formative period the artist is known to have spent several years in Vienna, painting to pay his rent at a men's hostel and producing an estimated 1,000 works between 1907 and the early 1930s, when he was diverted to a political career. Two of the pictures on show were offered for exhibition to the Austrian Academy of Art in 1907, but were rejected.

After purchasing his first two paintings at auctions, Lord Bath was approached by Peter Jahn, the artist's cultural adviser during his period of diversion into politics, and still living in Austria.

Herr Jahn gathered nearly sixty of his late master's paintings and sold them to Lord Bath for an average of £250 each. Most of the works are accompanied by a declaration from Herr Jahn testifying to their provenance.

Observers at yesterday's preview were concerned at the variety of signatures on the canvases. Some say "A Hitler" in block capitals, some are signed "Adolf Hitler" in a lumpy and inelegant script, and some bear the mere initials "AH".

Lord Bath is, however, satisfied with Herr Jahn's authentication of the works. He is, Lord Bath says, probably the only man alive who can say whether they are genuine.

Science report

How wild horses can cause abortions

By the Staff of *Nature*

When a wild stallion wins control of a harem from a rival, one dramatic consequence is that most of the pregnant members of the harem abort their foetuses. So concludes Dr Joel Berger, of the Smithsonian Institution, Front Royal, Virginia, who has been studying some of the 40,000 wild horses of the Great Basin Desert of North America.

Dr Berger selected a group of 129 horses confined to the Granite Range mountains in Nevada, and has watched them for 7,000 hours over the last four years, long enough to be able to claim to know the ages of 90 per cent of the horses.

He found that in harems dominated by a single male throughout the 11 month period of gestation 82 per cent of pregnancies ended with live births. But in unstable harems, where a second or even third stallion had taken control, there were less than half as many successful pregnancies. Closer study, correcting for age (older mares being less successful at bearing viable foals) showed a 90 per cent abortion rate for mares in their first six months of pregnancy if their harem was conquered by a new stallion.

Dr Berger observed that harem takeovers are characterized by copulations between its members and the new male, but only after he has continually and aggressively bitten and chased them. This amounts to forced copulation compared to the usual friendly course of events. Presumably forced copulation plays some part in inducing abortions, but since several abortions were also observed in the absence of forced copulation, general stress must also be a cause.

The presumed advantage to the new stallion of his actions is that it enables him to propagate his own genes, not those of a rival. In doing so the horse has at least settled for a slightly more 'ethical' method than that of infanticide which is used for similar purposes by some other wild animals, including lions.

Source: *Nature* 5 May 1983 vol 303 p 59

New Comet approaching the Earth

By Our Science Editor

The discovery of a new comet was announced last night to a meeting in London of the Royal Society. It has been called the IRAS-Akari-Alcock, after the names of those who, within days of each other, have confirmed its existence.

The object is approaching the Earth, and should be visible, certainly with good binoculars, near the Plough about May 11. Then it should be, at closest, some three million miles away.

The account to the Royal Society of the discovery began on April 25, when a group of scientists from Leicester University and the Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory, Oxford, were monitoring the streams of data coming from the Infrared Astronomy Satellite, IRAS, launched recently to detect stars and galaxies which cannot be seen from Earth-bound observatories.

The equipment it carries to make a map of the Universe is up to a thousand times more sensitive than existing instruments.

Lords clear doctors of negligence

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors who were accused of subjecting a woman to a "wholly unjustified" operation which left her with a paralysed vocal chord were unanimously cleared of negligence by the House of Lords yesterday.

Five Law Lords rejected an appeal by Mrs Blondell Maynard, a staff nurse, against West Midlands Regional Health *Authority for the operation*, at East Birmingham Hospital in 1970.

She claimed that the physician and surgeon responsible were guilty of an error of professional judgment so as to constitute a breach of duty of care. Contrary to strong medical indications that she had tuberculosis, they had held back from firm diagnosis and instead performed a biopsy of glands between her lungs, she claimed.

But giving judgment, Lord Scarman said: "Differences of opinion and practice exist, and will always exist, in the medical as in other professions. There is seldom any one answer exclusive of all others to problems of professional judgment.

Lord Scarman said that it was not enough to show that there was a body of competent professional opinion which considered that the decision by the doctors was wrong, if there was also a body of professional opinion, equally competent, which supported the decision as reasonable in the circumstances.

Nor was it enough to show *that subsequent events indicated* that the operation need never have been performed, if at the time of the decision to operate was taken it was reasonable in the sense that a responsible body of medical opinion would have accepted it as proper.

With Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Elwyn-Jones, Lord Roskill and Lord Templeman, he supported the majority Court of Appeal finding against Mrs Maynard, then aged 41.

But Mrs Maynard, of Vibart Road, South Yardley, Birmingham, is pursuing a second claim, in which negligence has been found in her favour against Hillingdon Area Health Authority and Mr Norman Nohl-Oser, a consultant

IBA talks on Equity dispute

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr John Whitney, the director-general of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), has invited the two sides involved in the dispute over television advertising to informal talks at the authority's London headquarters on Wednesday.

Neither Mr Peter Plouviez, the general secretary of Equity, the actors' union nor Mr David Wheeler, the director of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, who have both accepted the invitation, knows what may be proposed.

However, in March the IBA Suggested an independent commission of inquiry, which was accepted by the IPA but rejected by Equity.

Mr John Whitney: No quick results expected

The two sides have been at loggerheads for mons over the amount actors should be paid for repeated showings of commercials in Channel 4 and TV-am.

Equity, which has suggested that on a temporary basis they be paid half the full independent television rate, wants payment based on the number of repeats. The IPA insists, however, that audience size should be the main consideration.

It has been emphasized that the talks are informal and probably unlikely to yield any immediate results. But the IBA has clearly been worried by the union's decision at its recent annual meeting to set a July deadline for a deal to be reached, otherwise Equity says, it will seek to renegotiate its main independent television agreement.

Paras queued up for mass rape court told

A young paratrooper told a court yesterday that members of his regiment queued up to rape a teenage girl despite her pleas to be left alone.

The alleged incident took place in November, 1981, in an Army barracks at Aldershot. The soldier told Winchester Crown Court that two girls and three soldiers had come into his billet. One of the soldiers had taken a matress from a bed and left the room with one of the girls. The other and a soldier lay down on a bed together.

Later, he said, a group of drunken paratroopers came into the billet. "They were shouting and calling: 'gang bang: queue up: and get the others'," he said. "The girl was struggling but I didn't think she needed help", he added. Asked by Mr Stephen O'Malley, for the prosecution, what happened next, he said: "Two of the men then urinated on the girl. Then, after they had finished with her, they chased her from the room."

Before the court are four soldiers who deny raping the girl. One also denies having unlawful sexual intercourse with her. The other three all deny indecently assaulting her. A fifth soldier has admitted rape; and a sixth denies indecent and common assault.

Four paratroopers said the girl had been in bed with another soldier when a group of them burst in and started to molest her. One witness told the court: "They all gathered around the girl and started shouting 'gang-bang'."

Two of the witnesses have claimed they were threatened with violence if they told anyone about the incident. One told the court: "I did not fancy getting my face filled in." A soldier said he saw the girl sexually abused with a rolled up magazine. Another told the court: "The girl seemed to be enjoying sex with the first man, but when the others burst in all she wanted to do was get out of the place".

The trial continues today.

Wife 'murdered and buried in river bank'

A devoted mother who vanished in 1973 was murdered by her husband on their eleventh wedding anniversary, Newcastle magistrates were told yesterday.

Mrs Ann Law's husband Gilbert Law, aged 46, a marine engineer, from Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, appeared before a committal hearing charged with murdering his wife, aged 35, on March 24, 1973, two week's before their divorce was due to be made absolute. Mr Robert Taylor, for the prosecution said. Reporting restrictions were lifted at an earlier hearing.

Last November Mr Law admitted strangling his wife and burying her at a River Tyne picnic spot near Stocksfield, counsel said.

No trace of Mrs Law had been found, despite extensive digging along the river banks. "The last known person to see her alive was the defendant, who claimed at the time that his wife had left home at about 9.30pm without saying where she was going".

Mr Law later told detectives that he had buried his wife after she died from the effects of drink and drugs, the court was told.

After that he told police he was receiving messages from his television set the night she disappeared. "I was like a zombie – I heard this voice. It just said 'kill Ann'. I just started to strangle her."

Mr Law was diagnosed a paranoid schizophrenic in 1971. The couple had two children, a daughter, now 15, and a son, who is 19, but the marriage was turbulent.

Mrs Law sought a divorce while her husband was at sea in 1972. She told friends she was not going to be parted from her children or made to leave her home in Denton, Newcastle.

Mrs Law had arranged to meet her twin sister the day after she disappeared, Mr Taylor said. Her clothes, handbag and purse were still at home.

Mrs Law had never been in touch with her sister with whom she was very close, her children or friends. Her bank account had not been touched.

But, Mr Taylor said, if Mrs Law had been buried in the lower part of the river bank "river currents may have exhumed the body and carried it away". It was also possible that Mr Law had mistaken the exact spot where the body was buried.

The hering continues today.

Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 650 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LI 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 120; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 6.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L85.60; Tunisia Dir 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 80.

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Parachutist injured in saving Red Devils colleague from crashing

By Craig Seton

A leading member of the Red Devils parachute team was in hospital with a broken back yesterday after he saved a colleague from plummeting 1,000ft to his death when a spectacular mid-air manoeuvre went wrong.

Sergeant-major Kenneth Yeoman, aged 37, of The Parachute Regiment, caught hold of Corporal Kenneth Campbell, aged 25, when his colleague's parachute collapsed, and held on even when his own canopy partially folded, and the two hit the ground.

Sergeant-major Yeoman landed on his spine. He was rushed to Truro hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery. He was said yesterday to be partially paralysed in his legs.

Corporal Campbell managed a correct parachute landing and suffered only severe bruising and shock.

The accident happened on Wednesday night over RAF St Mawgan, in Cornwall, where nine members of the Red Devils were practising a jump *from 10,000ft from an Islander* aircraft.

Captain Michael Munn, the team leader, who witnessed if from the ground, said: "If it had not been for Sergeant-major Yeoman's cool head throughout it could have been even worse for Corporal Campbell than it was for him."

He said the two had dropped 7,000ft, most of it before opening their parachutes, when they started a manoeuvre called canopy relative work". This involves the two men linking their straps so that Sergeant-major Yeoman would be positioned immediately above his colleague, giving the appearance that he was standing on his shoulders.

Then the corporal's parachute collapsed. Captain Munn said: "They were still more than 1,000ft up and Corporal Campbell may well have fallen from there. "The Sergeant-major made sure that the corporal was secure, and it looked as if both men would get down on the one parachute, certainly to a hard landing, but reasonably safely."

The second parachute then partially collapsed. Captain Munn said: "It still had some lift, but the two men came down the last 80ft at 60 degrees and very fast. It was obvious right away that the Sergeant-major was badly hurt."

Sergeant-major Yeoman's wife visited him yesterday. He has three children and lives in married quarters at Aldershot. He has been with the Red Devils for four years and was to have led the team in a display in Berlin this month.

Sergeant-major Yeoman: Held colleague when parachute collapsed.

Given a new lease of life by a change of heart





Ticking happily: Mr Coffey with his wife and son; giving his approval on cycling and (below) returning to football.



By Our Science Editor

Mr Paul Coffey, aged 27, recieved his new heart on February 26, 1980. Before the operation he could scarcely sit up in bed; last Saturday he was playing his regular game of football.

He said yesterday: "I feel almost fitter than before I was taken ill, but that is probably because I am aware of the need to keep in trim. And that means sticking to a sensible diet and only an occasional drink."

The illness that nearly *killed him*, Mr Coffey now regards as only an interruption. But he believes he had an advantage because his wife was a nursing sister and so understood what was involved medically and psychologically. Mr Coffey, who was a charge nurse before the transplant, is now a clinical teacher in psychiatry at New Cross Hospital and is studying for higher examinations later this year.

Yet four years ago it was the severest exertion to walk 25 yards. Today he cycles and plays cricket, and squash racquets as well as football.

The deterioration that led to the need for a new heart was quite rapid. It began the previous summer with a violent attack of stomach pain. That was followed by a general debility, which resembled a severe bout of influenza. At first doctors suspected he had on of the exhausting systemic infections, such a glandular fever.

He was soon unable to walk a few hundred yards. A *specialist in Birmingham* diagnosed cardiac myopathy, a degeneration of the heart muscles, which was confirmed by Mr Terence English after Mr Coffey was referred to Papworth. The only remedy the doctors could offer was a transplant. Within five weeks he received a new heart.

Mrs Susan Coffey said: "Looking back on it, we did not seem to have time to be frightened. But more than anything else, the confidence of the staff at Papworth never gave us any feeling of doubt that it would not work, and confidence that Paul would be back to work."

Mr Coffey said: "the people at work have been a great help, because they accepted me back instantly as Paul Coffey and not some oddity.

"The main difference between now and before the heart condition is that I take a regular medication each day. But I take the necessary tablets as automatically as brushing my teeth. Every three months I have to attend a routine out-patients clinics; that takes only a matter of minutes. Once a year I check into Papworth for a full overhaul."

Transplant programmes face uncertain future

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Surgeons at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, have carried out the fiftieth heart transplant since the programme began in January, 1979.

The recipient was a former Post Office employee, aged 40, of Keighley, West Yorkshire. His operation, which started on Wednesday night and ended in the early hours of yesterday, was the 101st in Britain.

A hospital official said: "The operation went smoothly and his new heart is working well. The patient is a married man with a family, but the hospital is not releasing his name at the request of his relatives."

If the transplant work which started in 1968 but soon stopped in a glare of bad publicity is included, then rather more than 101 heart replacements have been carried out in Britain. That number includes the "piggy-back" operations conducted by Mr Magdi Yacoub's team at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, in which a doner heart is linked in parallel with a failing heart.

Yesterday's heart transplant operation at Papworth could be one of the last for some time because the future of heart replacements rests on the conclusions of a review ordered 18 months ago by the Department of Health and Social Security. The purpose was to assess progress over the past four years at Papworth and Harefield. The report is due in September.

The two hospitals were nominated for the resumption of transplant surgery in January, 1979, after a gap of 10 years on the recommendation of the Government's *Transplant Advisory* Panel.

Uncertainty about the future comes at a time when the survival rate of transplant recipients is improving rapidly. In the two years after Dr Christiaan Barnard did the first heart-swop, in December, 1967, at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, fewer than one in five patients survived each year, but the prospects now for survival for 12 months are better than eight in ten.

Furthermore, once past that hurdle, the five-year survival rate is expected to be 90 per cent. The longest surviving heart transplant patient is M Emmanuel Vitra, of Marseilles, a former wine salesman, now aged 61, who celebrated the fourteenth anniversary of his new heart at the end of last year.

By last summer, more than 750 heart transplants had been done in 74 countries. The greatest number have been performed by a team working with Professor Norman Shumway at Stanford University, California.

His achievements are better than those anywhere else. At the last meeting of the International Transplantation Society he reported on 254 transplants since 1968; of those, 87 were alive, the longest for twelve and a half years.

He attributes recent improvements in chances of survival to the introduction three years ago of a new anti-rejection drug, cyclosporin-A.

Research continues for still more effective ways of combating rejection. Nevertheless, a shadow hangs over progress in science and medicine, lack of money.

A heart replacement costs about £20,000 for the surgery and post-operative care. The number of people in Britain who could benefit from a transplant and be reurned to active life is about fifty a year.

Solicitors liable for crash damages

By Francis Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A firm of solicitors which failed to lodge a claim for compensation in time after a woman show jumper was injured in a car accident is liable for the heavy damages to which she is entitled, the House of Lords held yesterday.

Five Law Lords unanimously ruled that the solicitors must be held liable for the loss of a six-figure claim by Miss Lorna Deerness, aged 25, of Baldock, Hertfordshire, after she was rendered a *paraplegic* in an accident in 1977.

They upheld a Court of Appeal ruling last Ocotber that Miss Deerness could not proceed against the insurance company of the defendants because a clerk in A. E. Hamlin and Co, the firm of solicitors then handling the claim, omitted to serve a writ within the specified time.

Giving judgment, Lord Diplock said: "What this appeal is really about is a squabble between the solicitors' insurers and Cornhill (Insurance Company) as to which of them will have to pay the heavy damages to which the plaintiff is undoubtedly entitled".

He added that Miss Deerness would not suffer, as she had received £100,000, which was conditional on leave to appeal to the Lords being granted. She should now receive the balance, he said.

"The solicitors' insurers will have to pay out for a rise that they insured and for which they charged a premium; so they have suffered no injustice.

"Cornhill have had the good luck to escape having to pay out *for a risk that they had insured* and for which they too had charged a premium, but in liability insurance business, as between two insurers where the only question is which of them is to pay a claim, one cannot blame either insurer for taking advantage of his good luck."

Miss Deerness, who now works as a trainer at the North Hertfordshire Equitation Centre, where she used to jump, said yesterday: "Having had the £100,000 payment has eased the situation, but there is still the oustanding amount to be settled."

The final amount has yet to be agreed.

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Glazier says he trapped Soviet spies

By Richard Evans

A double-glazing salesman claimed yesterday that it was he who helped to uncover the biggest haul of Russian spies for a decade while working in the Soviet Trade delegation in Highgate, north London.

Mr William Graham, aged 45, said he pinpointed up to thirty Russians in the Highgate complex involved in subversive activity, and reported his findings to British intelligence chiefs.

He said that his work as a MI6 "mole" resulted in the expulsion of three Russians for spying activities, and predicted further expulsions.

In an interview with *The Standard*, the London evening newspaper, Mr Graham said he infiltrated the complex over an 18-month period after a chance offer to reglaze the buildings in the trade delegation in late 1979.

Mr Graham claimed that his work led to the expulsion of three spies, Mr Viktor Lazine in 1981, Mr Anatoli Zotov last December, and Mr Vladimir Chernov earlier this year.

In addition he said he uncovered a spy, code-named Charles, who had been operat*ing in Britain for two years* unknown to British security services.

He bugged the trade delegation for MI6 with a transmitting device about the size of a 10p piece, and also helped to get in touch with a Russian who was subsequently compromised by Intelligence to work for Britain when he returned to Moscow.

Mr Graham, a former police informant, said he agreed to work for MI6 "because I am loyal to my country".

The work began when he became friendly with a man he met in the Queen's Head public house, in Crouch End, north London. The stranger turned out to be a member of the Soviet trade delegation, who *said there would be some* double glazing work at the Highgate premises.

Mr Graham's firm, formerly Palace Installations of Hornsey, which is now in liquidation, was awarded the £46,000 contract.

He got in touch with his Special Branch contact before being introduced to an MI6 controller. Mr Graham said he was given a code name, a special telephone number to ring and a flat to go to in case of trouble. It was there that he was debriefed three or four times a week after starting the job in January, 1980.

He claimed that a bugging device planted under the lectern in the delegation's concert hall had helped to expose Mr Lazine, a second secretary at the *Russian Embassy, who was* expelled for attempting to recruit civil servants in government departments.

RUC widow to marry double killer

By Richard Ford

The widow of a Royal Ulster Constabulary inspector murdered by the provisional IRA, is to marry a convicted double killer described by a judge as a *"cold blooded and conpletely* ruthless assassin".

Mrs Florence Cobb, aged 42, a mother of three, has become engaged to Kenneth McClinton, aged 36, a former member of *the Ulster Defence Association*. He has become a "born again Christian" while serving a life sentence in the Maze high-security prison, near Belfast.

The couple plan to marry when McClinton, from the Shankhill Road area of Belfast completes his sentence in 1999, unless as Mrs Cobb says, "the Lord opens the prison gates sooner".

The couple first met after she appeared on a televison programme and McClinton wrote to her saying he had become a "born again Christian". After several letters she went to visit the man jailed in 1979 for the murder of a Roman Catholic and a Protestant.

Mrs Cobb, from Hillsborough, county Down, had *earlier written* to the man convicted of murdering her husband at security barriers in Lurgan, county Armagh, in 1977, forgiving him.

A "born again Christian" herself, Mrs Cobb said she believed McClinton was a truly sincere believer. Their relationship had developed since she began visiting him in 1981 after he had sent her a visitor's pass.

She had forgiven him for what he had done and he was sorry for his actions and after giving his life to Christ had severed his connexions with paramilitary groups.

Her fiancé had just returned to the Maze after undergoing skin graft operations after an attack by republican prisoners a few weeks ago in which he was scalded.

"He is not using his Christia*nity to try to get out of prison* early. He ses the Maze as his mission field and we are both prepared to wait," she said.

Mrs Sheila Carville, widow of one of the men McClinton shot dead six years ago, said last night he was "pulling the wool over people's eyes" about his "born again Christian" claims.

Mrs Cobb yesterday: Marrying "in 1999".

Aspinall is granted club licence

Mr John Aspinall was granted a gaming licence yesterday for the Curzon House Club, in Mayfair, London, after a three-day hearing by South Westminster Licensing Justices.

The casino, formerly owned by the Coral Leisure Group, lost its licence two years ago after the management was found using illegal methods to attract customers.

Mr Aspinall, aged 56, of Lyall Street, Belgravia, bought the club from the company. Five earlier applications failed because it was felt there were sufficient casinos in London..

Mr Aspinall agreed yesterday not to allow gambling at his other club, Aspinall's, in Knightsbridge, a small, exlusive casino for high-rolling gamblers, when the new club, to be called Aspinall Curzon, opens in eight months after renovations.

He also owns Howletts Zoo Park, near Canterbury, which he told the court was losing money.

Father is jailed for baby's death

James Hogan, aged 35, who smothered his son Ryan, aged eight months, with a cushion shortly before he was due to hand the child over to his estranged second wife, was jailed for 18 months yesterday at Preston Crown Court. Hogan, a sales representative, of Irwell Vale, Rossendale, Lancashire, admitted manslaughter.

Mrs Hogan had secured an interim court order giving custody of the boy.

Robbery theory in desecration

Grave robbers may have taken several thousand pounds of jewelry thought to have been buried with the body of a *woman at Theydon Bois, Essex*. The local police have begun an investigation after the grave of Mrs Winifred De Maus, who died in 1978, was found uncovered on Wednesday.

Mrs De Maus died in her eighties. Yesterday police said they were trying to find a relative who lives on the Isle of Wight. A spokesman said it had *been rumoured that Mrs De* Maus had been buried with a quantity of jewelry.

Better homes bring fewer complaints

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Britain's house builders are constructing better homes, of a higher standard, than they were 10 years ago. Since 1973 there has been a remarkable decline in the number of complaints about important structural defects in new homes.

An independent study by Duncan Fraser, a firm of actuaries, *shows that the* number of serious defects in newly built private houses has been significantly reduced since 1973, when almost 10,000 claims under the National Housebuilders Council certificate scheme were received. Last year claims had fallen to 4,500.

Under the scheme, which guarantees the main structures of a home for 10 years, a total of £6m was paid out last year for genuine complaints. Although no strictly comparable figure is available for 1973, £12m has been paid on claims arising on homes built between 1971 and 1973.

Most of the awards made last year relate to structural defects in homes built before 1974 and cover houses and flats which were constructed during the 1970-73 boom.

The council said yesterday that claims totalling only £4m had been met on homes built since 1975, although that generation of houses will *continue to* be at risk until early into the next decade.

Present certificate schemes run for the first 10 years of the life of a house but do not come into *operation* until a house has been bought. *During* the aftermath of the property collapse in the mid-1970s many home on sites all around the country lay empty *for* years until the market picked up again.

During the first two years of occupancy a housebuilder is normally responsible for any defects which become apparent. For the next eight years home owners are covered by the certificate.

The average size of a claim settled *last* year was *£3,300*. Most complaints were in two areas, roofing and badly laid *foundations*. They cost almost £3m, half the total claims, to put right.

But it is the report from the actuaries that indicates the general improvement in building standards over the past 10 years. It states that the number *of big structural* problems occurring after seven years is down by half.

Industrial action threat to Government's law and order policies

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government faces moves this month to disrupt its law and order policies by industrial action that could seriously embarrass it, especially if there is a general election in June.

The National Association of Probation Officers (Napo) is calling on its members to refuse to recommend, supervise, or cooperate with two key provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, which is due to come into effect on May 24.

Further, prison officers at their annual conference later this month will be debating unilateral action to cut the prison population. The debate comes after a resolution at their conference two years ago to the effect that if by now the Government had not done enough to reduce overcrowding, the prison officers would do what was needed.

If they decide to act, the population would be reduced to the certified normal accommodation figure, the number prisons are officially supposed to hold.

Officers estimate that if a motion before the conference is passed the prison population will fall by about 5,500.

An official of the Prison Officers' Association said that last time the officers took action, in 1980, the Government introduced an emergency powers Act, opened two camps, and brought in troops to help with perimeter guard duties. The prison population is now 44,407, and 374 in police cells.

Canterbury Prison staff, who moved the original resolution, have a motion this month which says that because the Government has not tried hard to reduce the over-crowding in prisons the association should adopt a policy of keeping to the certified normal accommodation figure in all establishments from June 6.

The branch moved that the policy should remain in force until otherwise determined by a special delegate conference.

The effect would be to add immediately to the number of prisoners held in police cells not built for the purpose and to bring pressure to bear on Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, to take emergency executive action to release some non-dangerous prisoners.

Mr Whitelaw is reluctant to take such action, as he made plain in his article in *The Times* yesterday. The article is seen by officers as implying that there is no need for further drastic action by them or anyone else because of the effort the Government is making to cut the prison population.

However, Mr Whitelaw's optimism conflicts with the opinion of Sir James Hennessy, his Chief Inspector of Prisons. He said in his annual report that prison overcrowding, which was already at a crisis point, was likely to worsen, with the population reaching almost 50,000 by the end of the decade.

Five thousand new places are to be provided, but the pressure on the system is unlikely to ease, because some cells will go to make room for integral sanitation and others will be out of use during refurbishing.

If the prison officers do not think Mr Whitelaw's programme credible the Government could be faced in the period before a possible general election with its much vaunted law and order programme, a priority for Conservatives, under attack from its own agencies.

One of the provisions in the Criminal Justice Act which Napo is banning is the curfew order.

Under the order a juvenile can be instructed to remain at home or at a specified address for a maximum of 10 hours between 6pm and 6am for up to 30 days. The court must not include any such requirement, however, unless it has first consulted the supervisor about the feasibility of securing compliance.

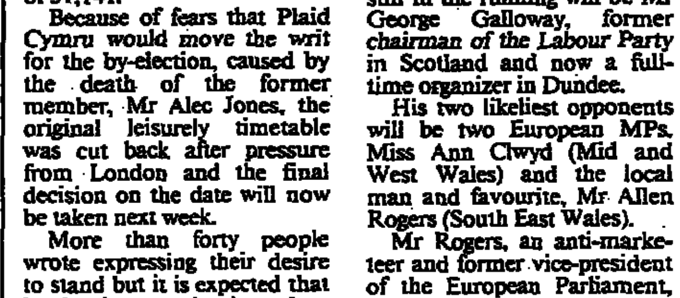
Another key provision in the Act to be vetoed by officers allows courts to require under a supervision order that a juvenile should refrain from participating in certain activities for up to 90 days.

Napo regards curfews and the so-called "negative requirements" in supervision and probation orders as unworkable and a fundamental change in the officer's role.

Members have been urged to try to reach agreement with their chiefs to try to avoid any conflict with courts.

There is already evidence that one part of the Act is not being used. "Since the adult provisions of the Act came into force in January no Napo member has recommended a negative requirement and to my knowledge none has been imposed," Mr Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of Napo, said.

The negative requirements mean that an offender can be told not to do something, for example visit a public house. The probation officer's job then is to ensure that he or she complies.



Bridge on the River Foyle: About 200 yards of dual carriageway bridge section taking to the air in Northern Ireland from a barge. The length of the bridge changes by an eighth of an inch for every degree C shift between rain and shine. (Photograph: John Dadson)

Labour in the Rhondda

Candidate for a lifetime

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

By tonight the clutch of solicitors, union officials and councillors bidding for the safest job in British politics will have been whittled down to a manageable number and, at most, only six prospective candidates will remain from whom the next Labour MP for the Rhondda will be chosen.

Barring a major scandal or a conversion of Lazarus-like proportions among the electorate, the successful man or woman will remain in Parliament for the rest of his or her working life, for the party enjoys in the valley a majority of 31,141.

Because of fears that Plaid Cymru would move the writ for the by-election, caused by the death of the former member, Mr Alec Jones, the original leisurely timetable was cut back after pressure from London and the final decision on the date will now be taken next week.

More than forty people wrote expressing their desire to stand but it is expected that by the time nominations close today, only 12 will have succeeded in obtaining the necessary nominations.

Several leading Labour MPs, still searching for seats because the reorganization of constituency boundaries, have cast envious glances towards the valley but they are barred by convention from bidding.

Mr Harry Stonelake, secretary of the Rhondda Constituency Labour Party, has admitted there is a preference in the valley for a local person to be chosen "although naturally we want the best candidate for the job."

Nevertheless, it appears likely that after the executive committee draws up a short list tonight, the only outsider still in the running will be Mr George Galloway, former chairman of the Labour Party in Scotland and now a full-time organizer in Dundee.

His two likeliest opponents will be two European MPs. Miss Ann Clwyd (Mid and West Wales) and the local man and favourite, Mr Allen Rogers (South East Wales).

Mr Rogers, an anti-marketeer and former vice-president of the European Parliament, said: "I feel I can represent the views of the Rhondda because I live in the valleys and come from a coalmining family."

Mr Galloway said: "The fact that I am a Scot presents no problems. There are examples of people who have done the same thing." In fact one of them, Keir Hardy, became the first Labour MP when he won Merthyr and his secretary was Mr Stonelake's grandfather.

Wisely, Mr Galloway says he is in favour of devolution in Scotland but not for Wales.

Only twice, in 1945 when the Communists failed by 972 votes to capture the seat and in 1967 when Plaid Cymru fell short by 3,000 votes, has the unbroken Labour lineage been remotely challenged.

The prospective Conservative candidate, Mr Peter Meyer, a knowledgeable and experienced county councillor, will not be too disheartened by the inevitability of defeat. In 1959 Mr Francis Pym was soundly thrashed there.

Rhondda contradicts Conservative ethos, which declares that home ownership is a factor in its favour, for most of the 76 per cent owner occupiers in the valley follow the 17.7 per cent who live in council houses and routinely reject the party.

March for jobs gets into its stride

By Ronald Faux

The People's March for Jobs was in full stride yesterday, gaining momentum as it moved south through the Lake District.

The 70 marchers in bright yellow sweatshirts and waterproofs, banners waving in the wind, had already crossed Shap, which offers some of the highest and bleakest ground between Glasgow and London, and had just passed through Whitelaw land, unswerving Conservative territory dotted with comfortable farms and prosperous-looking country towns.

"Some people looked at us as though we had just stepped down from Mars, but generally folk understand", a young marcher, who is a redundant factory manager and former shop steward, said.

A morgue technician, who had taken five weeks unpaid leave to join the march, said the police had been helpful and sympathetic, escorting the marchers on the daily 15-mile legs of the protest.

"They know exactly what the relationship is between unemployment and crime, and that with more work there would be less crime and violence for them to deal with, less for the extremists of any kind to promote themselves with", he said.

The march had been kept to a token number because of costs and logistics problems. It will swell from a number of smaller marchers coming from elsewhere in the North-west, and from west Cumbria, Yorkshire, Liverpool, Newcastle and the West Country. It is planning to sweep into Trafalgar Square on June 5 for "the biggest protest demonstration against unemployment the country has ever seen".

There are no pinched faces or rank signs of distress among these latter-day Jarrow men and women. But the distress and deprivation these marchers complain about has a depressing edge.

Sophia Young, aged 22, from Glasgow, graduated at Aberdeen University a year ago with an MA in arts and social sciences, and has found only two jobs since: as a part-time waitress and as a barmaid.

"It is very depressing to be told 50 times: 'Sorry but we have had 500 people or 200 graduates applying for this job'. This march is really the first constructive thing I have been able to do. It is comradeship, encouragement and knowing that you are not alone", she said.

The marchers insist that their blisters and sore legs are not being suffered for a political cause. They resent the left-wing activists who are apt to arrive ahead of the march distributing revolutionary literature

Mr Alan Millington, chief marshal, insisted: "We are not extremists, we just believe there must be another way to run the country than inflicting this on so many people."

Doubts on Sizewell safety

Two British and German nuclear engineering experts have criticized the design of the steel pressure vessel, the "heart" of the Central Electricity Generating Board's proposed Sizewell B Pressurized water reactor (PWR).

The criticism comes in evidence to the public inquiry now ending 15 weeks in session at the Snape Maltings, in Suffolk. The evidence was prepared for Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council by Dr David Leslie, professor of nuclear engineering at London University.

Professor Leslie told the hearing yesterday that he was "unconvinced by the board's choice of style of pressure vessel", citing an assessment of the safety and reliability of the vessel's design carried out by Dr Karl Kussmaul, director of West Germany's state materials testing laboratory and a member of the German reactor safety commission.

The inquiry was told that the experts' concern centered on the upper part of the pressure vessel, the nozzle and flange region, which both Professor Leslie and Dr Kussmaul claim should be forged as one unit.

Both the board and the National Nuclear Corporation, the part-government-owned corporation which acts as agent for the UK nuclear programme, claim that the use of such an integrated design is not feasible

Dr Kussmaul's evidence shows that German pressure vessel manufacturers have forged pressure vessels as one component as large as that planned at Sizewell.

The inquiry continues today.

Union leader eases fears over finances

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Mr Clive Jenkins's 400,000-strong white-collar union, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), has moved to head off possible controversy over its finances.

Mr Jenkins, the general secretary, said yesterday the union's position had improved "quite dramatically" and that in any case its problems had been grossly exaggerated.

Several motions severely critical of the financial performance of ASTMS have been dropped from the final agenda of the union's annual conference, which starts in Bournemouth tomorrow.

National officers said that an internal investigation of the situation had satisfied the committee setting out the order of business of the conference and that it was decided there were more important issues to be debated.

Mr Jenkins said that a combined deficit on capital and current account of £875,000 in 1981 had been reduced to a deficiency of £5,000.

There was also an increase in the central political and general fund, from £7,955,000 to £9,340,000. Current and capital expenditure had decreased marginally to £7,320,000. Total net assets rose from £2.2m to £3.6m.

This financial performance had been fuelled by a 17 per cent increase in membership subscriptions through an increase in the fee from £2 a month to £2.50

Assets had also been sold and 33 members of staff had accepted voluntary redundancy. An index-linked pay agreement with staff had also been replaced with a less expensive arrangement.

● ASTMS has worked out a method of tempting organizations not affiliated to the Trades Union Congress into merging with it.

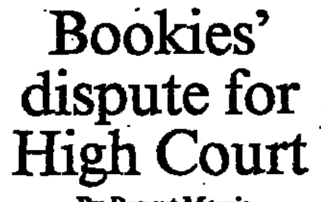
Instead of the traditional full-blooded amalgamation approach, which often frightens less militant bodies away, the union has developed a "trial marriage" scheme.

Smaller organizations are being invited to avail themselves of ASTMS facilities at a prearranged annual fee, without committing themselves to an eventual merger.

Mr Peter Kennedy, a national officer, said the union could offer research, educational and legal services, together with advice on health and safety.

Mr Jenkins estimates that his union could pick up as many as 100,000 extra members.

The union has already signed up the Guinness staff association in Dublin.



Bookies' dispute for High Court

By Rupert Morris

A dispute among bookmakers is to be resolved in the High Court today. At issue is the chairmanship of the levy board's bookmakers' committee, which helps to decide the annual rate of levy.

The Betting Office Licensees' Association (BOLA), which represents High Street betting shops, objects to the chairmanship of Mr Alf Bruce, from the National Association of Bookmakers (NAB), which represents predominantly on-course bookmakers.

That view is supported by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who reconstituted the bookmakers' committee from last December to give the bodies equal representation. NAB had previously commanded a permanent majority on the committee.

BOLA has long argued that NAB should not have the main say in how the levy is fixed, since only off-course bookmakers (BOLA members) pay the levy – equivalent to 1.1 per cent of their turnover, and expected to raise £19m for the racing industry in this financial year.

But NAB has received legal advice that it may still be entitled to have Mr Bruce, with his vital casting vote, as chairman.

Ripper denial

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was not exorcized by Father Anthony Lawn while he was in Leeds prison awaiting trial, as stated in a newspaper, a Home Office minister said in a Commons written reply

Visit by EEC delegates for trade barrier talks

By Our Parliamentary Staff

A delegation from the European Parliament will be in London on Tuesday and Wednesday for talks with ministers about the removal of non-tariff barriers to trade within the European Community. A special meeting of the EEC Council of trade ministers has been called for May 26 and the European MPs want to be in a position to put some views to it.

Meetings have been arranged next week with Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

The five European MPs coming to London will be led by M Jacques Moreau, the French socialist chairman of the European Parliament's economic and monetary committee. The British member of the quintet is Mr Basil de Ferranti (Hampshire, West) a prominent member of a group dedicated to reducing non-tariff barriers to trade.

Besides ministers, the delegation will meet members of the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry and the appropriate sub committee of the House of Lords EEC Committee. Further exchanges have been arranged with the British Standards Institute and British Telecom.

Non-tariff barriers are calculated to be costing the EEC as a whole some £10,500m a year, of which the United Kingdom share amounts to about £2,000m. They take many forms, such as French insistance that documentation accompanying all imports should be in French, customs delays at ports, and the lack of car type approval for vehicles, which is a factor in cars in Britain being dearer than the same cars bought on the Continent.

Satellite TV group considers share offers

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The board of Satellite Television is to meet today to decide on the offers for a majority shareholding in the group.

News International, owners of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The News of the World* and *The Sun*, has made a bid for the shareholding but is in competition with another bidder, believed to be an electronics group.

The satellite service has been operating since 1981 using the European Orbital Test Satellite. The station has more than 400,000 viewers in Norway, Finland and Switzerland. From the summer, the station will be transmitted on the new European Communications Satellite which will be able to be recieved in Britain.

The project has cost the shareholders about £4m, so far, but a further £10m is needed

Environment policy plea to Britain

By David Nicholson-Lord

Leaders of the European conservation movement are to make a final appeal to Mr Tom King, The Secretary of State for the Environment, over Britain's blocking of a measure regarded as crucial to the development of a coherent EEC environment policy.

Mrs Margaret Sweeney, the Irish president of the European Environmental Bureau, is writing to Mr King asking him to abandom British resistance to the proposed directive on environmental impact assessment in time for next month's meeting of the EEC Council of Ministers. If he refuses, conservationists believe the directive may be lost.

The bureau is the main pan-European grouping of conservationists, representing more than sixty bodies in the 10 members states. Mr Robin Grove-White, its UK representative and director of the Council for the protection of Rural England, described the directive yesterday as "immensely important" and said the finger would point at Britain if it was dropped.

He added that environment ministers had allowed themselves to be dominated by industrial interests, looking no further than the minor risk of delays to their projects, such as the construction of power stations, mineral developments and farming drainage.

The irony about Britain's blocking of the directive is that the approach it enshrines is in broad conformity with the best principles of British planning and would modify practices here very little compared with its effect on countries such as Greece, Italy or Belgium.

It has received the backing of the Town and Country Planning Association and the Royal Town Planning Institute

Conservationists believe that the directive, which provides for vetting of sensitive projects and lays down public consultation procedures, would place environmental policy at the heart of EEC decision-making. Increasingly controversial agricultural drainage projects could be better controlled, they argue.

Government opposition to the proposal, which has been discussed by the EEC for four years, originally centred on objections to more planning bureaucracy.

Unqualified conveyancers 'a threat to the public'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society has launched another attack on non-qualified conveyancers in strongly worded document which sets out "why non-solicitor house conveyancers constitute a threat to the public interest".

It claims that in the past solicitors who have been struck off the roll for stealing clients' money have subsequently worked within unqualified conveyancing organizations, "thus exposing its customers to a risk which cannot be justified".

It names one non-lawyer conveyancer who, it says, has failed to pass the conveyancing paper of the solicitors' final examinations five times. "He now offers his services to the public as an unqualified conveyancer."

Another person cited in recent legal proceedings "has failed the conveyancing paper of the solicitors' final examination no fewer than 12 times".

The document, which has been sent to all local law societies, is aimed at putting the Law Society's case to the public, the media and MPs, for the present round of prosecutions it had brought against non-qualified conveyancers.

The prosecutions, the society says, are being brought as a matter of consumer protection. "For a member of the public to use an unqualified conveyancer is playing with fire."

Citing the unanimous conclusion of the Royal Commission on Legal Services in 1979 that a "free-for-all in conveyancing would not be in the public interest", the society lists four reasons why a solicitor should be preferred to a non-lawyer conveyancer.

Every solicitor, the society says, has received lengthy legal training in all branches of the law; offers the benefit of a compensation fund for dishonesty; has to observe a code of conduct so he cannot benefit from his client's innocence and carries compulsory insurance against negligence.

The society gives two examples of the dangers for clients of using non-lawyer conveyancers. In one, evidence was given in one of the recent Law Society prosecutions that a solicitor acting for the building society lending money to the conveyancer's customer had to redraft the transfer document. The unqualified conveyancer then thanked the solicitor for putting him right.

In another case contracts had been exchanged but not signed. The customer of the non-qualified conveyancer learned of new facts and wanted to withdraw from the transaction. His conveyancer failed to act quickly enough and the contract was signed by the other side, committing the customer to a binding contract with which he could not proceed.

The society accepts improvements can and have been made. Some solicitors, it says, would like to see advertising allowed by individual firms. "This is a change which does cause us concern. Because, however, of the public interest we have taken some small steps in that direction."

These include estimate forms for conveyancing charges which clients can ask solicitors to fill in. Clients are encouraged to shop around. Solicitors, it says, can be cheaper than non-qualified conveyancers.

Hunting the small fry in video piracy

By Kenneth Gosling

Pornographers are moving into the video-piracy market, turning it into one of the most profitable illegal industries, Mr Peter Duffy, a former Scotland Yard Commander, said yesterday.

He said: "The arrival of video was manna from heaven for them. At the top end we know what we are up against – there is not just one Mr Big but several fairly bigs. The difficulty is tracking down the people at the lower end of the scale".

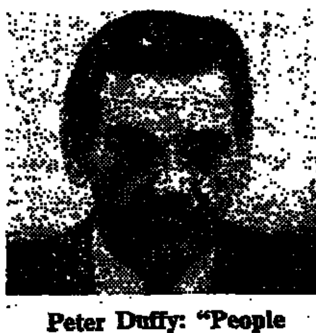
Mr Duffy was recently appointed head of investigations for the new Federation Against Copyright Theft (Fact) and already has an efficient operations room set up in its offices in London's West End.

In another room are piled boxes and boxes of pirate videos, familiar names like *Gandhi* and *Tootsie* among them.

"One trade paper even voted *ET* the best cassette of the year even though it has never been officially released", Mr Duffy said. He thought there was a case for a significant appraisal by the cinema industry of its marketing tactics.

As a matter of policy it would not issue any video of its films. "But every feature film since we started last October has been copied, many of them very badly".

I was shown a pirated copy of *The Missionary* with a very distorted and "stretched" image.



Peter Duffy: "People making big money".

Mr Duffy said: "The man in the street will say there is no harm in a little bit of copying – it is known as time-shift. But people are making big money out of paying a few hundred pounds to a projectionist to get hold of a film for a few hours.

"The sad thing is people in Hollywood still say it is not policy to issue films in cassette form. Talk about putting your head in the sand."

Mr Duffy produced cassettes of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, which has never been officially produced on video because it continues to be shown year after year in the cinema to fresh generations of children.

"These", he said, "are worth more than the Bank of England plates for £20 notes".

Tracking down the pirates, using a network of private investigators and with the help of the police and trading standards officers, is paying off – but at a price.

The operation is costing £750,000 a year, with contributions from film industry organizations ranging from £16,000 to £64,000. The founder members of Fact were the British Videogram Association, the Motion Picture Association of America Incorporated and the Society of Film Distributors.

Mr Robert Birch, Fact's director-general, is another ex-Yard man – formerly the Metopolitan Police solicitor – and his deputy, Mr William McCrorie, was the senior principal legal executive at the Yard. Mr Duffy once headed the anti-terrorist squad and worked in the murder squad and against company fraud.

Several gangs have already been broken and a number of cases are pending. In one copying centre equipment worth £250,000 was found.

Mr Birch said the change in the law increasing penalties for piracy and sale would switch the emphasis from lengthy and expensive civil proceedings to the criminal courts.

And those who handle the illegal cassettes will think again before risking prison sentences. "The fact is that you cannot have thieves without receivers and the dealers must realize this."

The seizure so far of 7,000 video cassettes worth more than £250,000 was, he said, just the tip of the iceberg. There were two aspects to the problem: organized crime using dishonest methods to obtain a film, putting it on master tapes and flooding the market; and "back to back" copying, involving a dealer employing two machines – "and a bit of wire from *Exchange and Mart*".

The supply of blank tapes is also being studied. "We want information about any exceptionally large order for tapes coming in from an unusual source", Mr Birch said.

The first big "crunch" in the Fact campaign willl come in a fortnight when thousands of illegal cassettes will be crushed at a depot in Tottenham, north London.

The campaign itself will continue – aided, its leaders hope, by the speedy enactment into law of the Copyright Amendment Bill, promised a rapid passage through its remaining stages.

Prison suicide

Mr Michael Lamont, aged 29, of Cambridge Road, Kilburn, north-west London, accused of stealing an antique table from a Kilburn house, hanged himself in a Hampstead police cell with material torn from his shirt.

A verdict that he had taken his life while of disturbed mind was recorded at St Pancras Coroner's Court yesterday.

Recorders dearer

By a Staff Reporter

New quota restrictions and the fluctuation of the pound against the yen will mean increases in the next few weeks in the price of video recorders imported from Japan. Buyers will find that the previous lowest price of £299 will be up by about £100.

The increases are coupled with a warning from Mr William Pulton, managing director of Sony (UK), that supply will fail to keep pace with demand: he says the price of virtually all video recorders will be affected.

Under the terms of an agreement between the EEC and the Japanese Government a limit has been set at 4,550,000 a year; current estimates put the market size at 4,800,000, although it is pointed out that it has not been widely understood that the figure of 4,550,000 is not a fixed quota.

The Japanese quota will probably come down to 3,500,000 and European manufacturers cannot make up the shortfall.

In the five or so years since video recorders started to appear the price has dropped from £700-£800 to machines offering better facilities for less than £300.

Under the terms of the agreement Philips and Grundig are able to take advantage of a guaranteed additional 1,200,000 allocation for locally produced machines. But a severe shortage of machines i. being predicted.

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PARLIAMENT May 5 1983

Soviet offer an attempt to delude public

NUCLEAR DEBATE

The British nuclear deterrent is already at the irreducible minimum as a strategic last-resort nuclear deterrent, to deter anyone who wished to attack Britain, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons.

She was questioned by several MPs about the Soviet wish to include British and French weapons in the negotiations over intermediate nuclear forces at Geneva.

Mrs Thatcher said that Soviet attempts to include the British strategic weapon without including their own was an attempt to delude the British public which must not succeed and there was not a shadow of doubt that it was vital for Britain to retain the deterrent.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C) began by asking: Does the Prime Minister approve of the decision of CND to send two observers to the World Peace Council sponsored by the Soviet Union in Prague. Would they not do better to campaign against the missiles already deployed in eastern Europe and Russia?

Mrs Thatcher: I agree. A very much better way to get nuclear disarmament is to persuade the Soviet Union to negotiate in Geneva to get the weapons of both sides down.

Mr Micael Foot, Leader of the Opposition: Will she look afresh at the statement apparently made by her Government that it will object to any proposition for including the British nuclear force among the matters to be discussed at the INF talks at Geneva?

The Government should consider it afresh before she blocks it – a step which might cause serious wreckage of the disarmament conference.

Mrs Thatcher: The British and French nuclear deterrents cannot be included in the INF negotiations. Nor should they be. They are are a strategic last resort deterrent. They face many strategic weapons from the Soviet Union, none of which they propose to include in the INF negotiations.

Mr Foot: We shall be debating this next week but is she saying there will be some other negotiations in which the British Government would be prepared to discuss the British nuclear deterrent as well?

Is it possible for those matters to be discussed at the Start talks if not at the INF talks, if that would help them to succeed?

Mrs Thatcher: The French and British nuclear deterrents are absolute last resort deterrents. They are already the absolute minimum to deter and we cannot give away the absolute minimum without robbing this country of a very necessary part of our defence.

Mr Roy Jenkins, Leader of the SDP: Is it not clear, however, that Mr Andropov's limited but significant step forward appears to have been much more coolly received in London than in Washington or Nato headquarters? Would she be prepared to correct this impression?

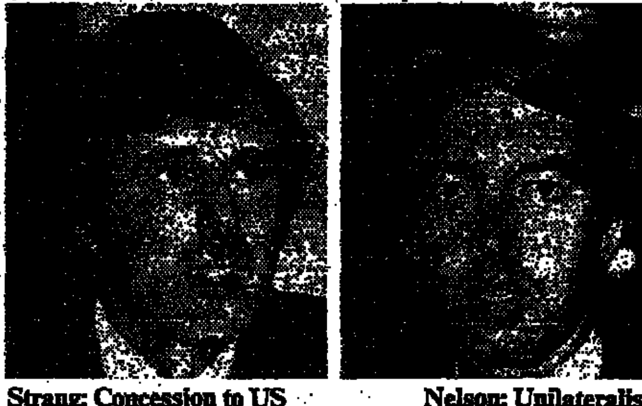
Mrs Thatcher: The previous question referred only to one part of those proposals. The other part was that we should count the number of warheads rather than the number of missiles. That is what Nato has always wanted and it is to be welcomed.

The other parts are highly complex and must be considered very carefully before comment is made on them.

Mr William Pitt (Croydon, North-West, L): In view of the news from America this morning, will she seek to encourage President Reagan to take the advice of his House of Representatives and support a nuclear freeze? (Conservative shouts of "No")

Mrs Thatcher: No. To support a nuclear freeze would freeze in the superiority of the Soviet Union. I do not know whether that is Mr Pitt's policy but it is not that of this side.

Those who want genuine disarmament want reductions in nuclear weapons on both sides and a freeze would hinder that objective.



Strang: Concession to US — Nelson: Unilateralism

Mr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh, East, Lab): Mr Andropov's offer to count warheads and not just missiles is a significant Soviet concession to the United States and she is right to welcome it, but in view of her statement that the Government will continue to resist the long-standing Soviet proposal that British weapons be included, will she say in what circumstances, if any, the British Government is prepared to negotiate over our nuclear weapons?

Mrs Thatcher: It is totally wrong to suggest that our last resort strategic, submarine-based nuclear weapons should be included in talks about weapons which are land-based mobile ones and for the Soviet Union to suggest that leaving out of account all its strategic weapons including submarine based ones is to delude the British public. They must not succeed in doing so.

If no one in the world had nuclear weapons we should not need a last resort nuclear deterrent.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, C): Will she make clear to Mr Foot and Mr Andropov that 64 Polaris missiles, 16 of which at any time are guaranteed to be on station, are there to offset not only 600 intermediate range Soviet missiles aimed at our people and our friends in Europe, but also at the 2,400 intercontinental strategic nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union?

Mrs Thatcher: Ours are the irreducible minimum to deter anyone who wishes to attack us with nuclear weapons. It is vital to keep them and we have no shadow of doubt about that.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C): Questions of the inclusion of the British nuclear deterrent in any negotiations about arms limitation will inevitably be tantamount to unilateral disarmament in that we would be largely doing away with the nuclear shield which is our ultimate guarantee of security, whereas the Soviet Union would still have a considerable arsenal capable of hitting this country.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree that to abandon our deterrent would be one-sided disarmament. The deterrent is the first and most important part of our defence.

Changes made to stop and search powers for police

POLICE BILL

Several changes were made early today to the provisions in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill relating to the powers of the police to stop and search. The report stage of the Bill, which was adjourned at 1.37 am, resumes *in the Commons* on Monday.

Among the many Government amendments agreed to was one which Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, said would have the effect of making it unlikely that people would be stopped and searched in their own gardens.

Another amendment, moved by Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, required that a police officer proposing to undertake a search, should state his name and the police station to which he was attached.

Mr Peter Snape (West Bromwich, East, Lab), for the Opposition, said it would have been helpful if the Government had required the officer also to give his number to avoid confusion if two officers at the same station had the same name.

Mr Mayhew moved an amendment allowing an officer to use reasonable force if necessary to conduct a search or to detain a person or vehicle for the purpose of a search.

Mr Snape said that led into the realms of subjective judgment by the officer concerned. Would an aggrieved motorist who might miss an interview and lose a job as a result of being stopped, be able to claim compensation if it was subsequently proved he was innocent?

Mr Mayhew said what was "immovable force" demanded upon the circumstances and the test to be applied was he degree of force which was necessary in the circumstances to permit the officer tos carry out that which had een authorized.

Not to have that power would nullify the point of the poweer to stop and search because otherwise an officer would not be able to counter any resistance.

It had never been the law that someone lawfully stopped should be able to claim compensation though someone unlawfully stopped could do so.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) asked during the debate for an estimat of the increase in paper work which would have t undertaken by the police as a result *of the Bill and Mr Mellor said he* would make such an estimate.

Mr Griffiths said the filing system the police would require would be much greater than ever before. Perhaps the new rooms where tape recordings would be taken, could be designed with extra bookshelves where the files could be kept.

Mr Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, Lab) said the point should not be dismissed flippantly as it had been in the committee stage.

No one wlanted to see skilled police officers unable to opetate because they were spending their time as pen pushers. There ought to b. proper management examination of the consequences in terms of the paper work.

Better deal for residents

MOBILE HOMES

Under the Mobile Homes Bill, the Government sought to improve still further the protection to mobile home residents while not adversely affecting the interests of site owners, Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said during the Bill's report stage.

He moved a series of new clauses and amendments to introduce an element of implied terms which guaranteed certain rights for mobile homes residents which would further strengthen the protection provided by the Bill.

He said site owners would be required to provide residents with a written statement setting out both the implied terms and the express terms of the agreement between them.

The new approach would leave the site owners free to negotiate with their residents on a local basis those matters which ought to be negotiated locally: pitch fees, what services the owners would provide and details of residents' obligations.

Resident would be guaranteed security of tenure and the right to sell on site from the moment the Bill came into force.

This Bill would make a significant difference to the lives of a lot of people who lived on mobile home sites. Without these amendments it would have strengthened the residents' position in a number of ways, and with them it would improve on that protection still more in a way that would not adversely affect the interests of site owners.

We have striven (he said) to maintain a fair balance between the interests of site owners and residents. *The* Government has responded in a positive way to the arguments put to it.

Mr Edward Graham, an Opposition spokesman on the environment *(Enfield, Edmonton, Lab)*, said the substantial improvements Labour had sought were contained in these new clauses and they were grateful.

Instead of being dependent on a written agreement, now even when there was a conflict between implied terms and the written agreement, the implied terms were the ones which would prevail.

The changes had been designed to deal with some recalcitrant site owners who might otherwise ignore their obligations under legislation. The site owners had been well served by those who put their point of view and they had nothing to fear from this new legislation.

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury, C) said he welcomed the new clauses. They struck a fair balance between site owners and mobile home occupiers, although *some mobile home residents'* associations were concerned about how the Bill might work out in law.

For instance, an annual review of pitch fees would still be permitted and this was in practice likely to be an annual increase. There was no arbitration machinery other than the courts. There was no independent control over rent charges.

The National Mobile Home Residents' Association wondered why using the services of a local rent officer had not been considered.

He agreed broadly with this because the courts involved a lot of expense and put owners of mobile homes at some disadvantage.

Residents' associations felt they might have been included in the Bill as an authoritative body with which site owners could be expected to negotiate. They felt a bit neglected.

Mr Nicholas Lyell (Hemel Hempstead, C) also welcomed the clauses. Mobile home owners would have automatic security of tenure under the Bill as long as the site operator had control of the site. In most cases that meant indefinitely. Owners would have the right to sell their homes on site and no longer have to offer first refusal to the site operator. The maximum commission charged to them on a sale would be cut from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) said relationships were generally good between the *home owners and site operators. It* would be wrong to suggest that the country was littered with mobile home residents doing battle with rapacious owners. But there were sometimes problems and he agreed *the Bill had the right balance* between the two interests.

The National Caravan Council, a responsible body, had suggested as an alternative to the new clauses that where the owner had offered the occupier an agreement and the occupier failed either to make an



Young: We have striven for a fair balance

application within six months of the offer or to decline the offer in writing within that period the offer should be treated as accepted.

The case was conclusive for the adoption of this simple amendment rather than the complicated and possibly impracticable new clauses.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) said the new clauses were a great *step forward, but there were still* serious gaps. The first concerned the sanctions available to occupiers should the site owner not comply with the requirements of the clauses.

It was a pity that they had to go through the courts as this would deter people.

The Government's amendments did nothing to end the scandal of premium payments. The problem could be compared with the problem of key money in the house sector. If only the rent officer could have been drawn in to deal with the situation.

Mr Iver Stanbrook (Bromley, *Orpington, C) said he welcomed the* Bill and the Government's new clauses. The Bill represented a substantial improvement in the position of mobile home residents.

There would be many cases where both sides did not agree to an arbitrator and this could be a difficulty

Sir George Young, said he did not see how the Bill would make anyone worse off than under the existing agreements. If a site owner had already voluntarily conceded better provisions than the implied terms would oblige him to do, he was not likely to go to court and use the new implied terms to take away those rights already given. If people wanted to give extra rights on top of the implied rights there was nothing to stop them.

Regarding the suggestions of a *rent officer*, they wer not talking about tenants but owner-occupiers who rented the pitch and rent officers had no experience in dealing with pitch fees.

The Government new clauses and amendments were agreed to.

Sir George Young moved admendments, which were agreed to, to make the Bill commence one week after Royal Assent. This unusual step was to minimise the danger of site operators denying the protection of the Bill to residents by taking action before it came into force.

He hoped the Bill would complete its remaining stages in time to come *into force* by the end of May. They had looked at the possibility of making it retrospective but no MP regarded retrospection with enthusiasm.

The Bill could not be effective *without an order fixing* the maximum level of commission a site owner could charge and the order could be made in the week between Royal Assent and commencement.

Mr Graham moved an amendment to prevent unreasonable terms being imposed by an unreasonable site operator on such important matters as services, repairing obligations, site rules or access arrangements.

Mr Lyell said he supported the amendment with others of a similar kind which he had tabled. They sought to give judicial discretion to courts in the case of mobile homes as in the case of other residential accommodation.

Sir George Young said with Mr Graham's amendment there could be lengthy agreements now in force between residents and site owners which did not allow the site owners to terminate them on the grounds of the age and condition of the home.

He moved a series of Government amendments to provide that the court had to be satisfied that the resident had breached his agreement, and had been served with a notice to remedy the breach and had failed to comply with it in reasonable time.

Without these amendments there was a danger that the courts would have no discretion and no option but to terminate an agreement, when the agreement that had been breached was trivial.

Mr Graham's amendment was negatived. The Government amendments and Mr Lyell's amendments were agreed to.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Debate on defence and disarmament.

Thursday: Importation of Milk Bill, second reading. Opposed private *Bills: Milford Haven Conservancy* Bill, third reading. King's College London Bill, Standard Chartered Merchant Bank Bill, and Lloyds Bowmaker Bill, second readings.

Friday: Private members' Bills: National Audit Bill, remaining stages Broadcasting of Parliament (Annual Review) Bill, committee.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Energy Bill, third reading. County Courts (Penalties for Contempt) Bill, second reading. Diseases of Fish Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Telecommunications Bill, committee, second day.

Wednesday: Debate on industrial production.

Thursday: Housing and Building Control Bill, report.

Friday: National Heritage Bill and Mobile Homes Bill, Commons amendments.

Prisoners might be moved

HOME OFFICE

Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said he had plans to move some prisoners in London to prisons outside the capital.

Answering a question about the size of the prison population, he said: Some of the wings of some of the local prisons are out of action because we are making improve*ments in maintenance* which should have been done a long time ago. I have plans to make other places available where we can move people within London prisons to prisons outside.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, (Halifax, Lab): The key to the alternatives to prison imposed by the courts is the probation service. *Yet in his article in The Times* of today on prison overcrowding, he did not even mention the existence of the probation service, which was a regrettable omission.

The expected increase of only 155 probation officers next year *will* be totally inadequate if the prison population is to be significantly reduced.

Mr Whitelaw: I did make reference in that article to the use of non-custodial alternatives. This Government has done a great deal more for the probation service than our predecessors and has increased their numbers. She could not forget that.

Depriving public of police protection

The organizers of demonstrations and marches in London must accept their responsibilities and the possible dangers of taking police protection away from others, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, *Chipping Barnet, C)* asked the Home Secretary what criteria he took into consideration when deciding whether or not to accede to any request to ban a march or demonstration in the Metropolis.

Mr Whitelaw: I have no power to ban demonstrations. As to marches, the Public Order Act 1936 provides that the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police or the Commissioner of the City Police may, subject to my consent, make an order banning all marches or any class of march, but only if he believes that his other powers of control under the Act will be *insufficient to prevent* marches occasioning serious public disorder.

In each case, I consider the commissioner's reasons for reaching his operational judgment. Beyond that, specific considerations may vary. *But I always reach my* decision on whether or not to consent to a banning order on what I judge will be in the public interest.

Mr Chapman: Since last year over threequarters of a million police man hours were used in controlling demonstrations in the Metropolis alone, involving more than 100 officers. Would he seriously and sympathetically consider, if necessary, an extension to the Public Order Act so that the Metropolitan Police Commissioner can ask for re-routing or banning of a march or demonstration if he can show that if the march or demonstration went ahead, it would impede his main priority which is fighting *crime* in London.

Mr Whitelaw: That does not come into the law at present which is related to serious public disorder. Those who decide to exercise their



Summerskill: No mention of probation service

undoubted right to have marches or demonstrations have to recognize the responsibility they are taking and the danger of taking away from other people in the Metropolis the protection they want.

Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (West Bromwich, East, Lab): How many police officers were engaged in *controlling the* demonstration in Trafalgar Square the Sunday before last organised by Lady Olga Maitland and her upper and middle class friends in support of nuclear weapons. Has the Home Secretary or anyone else *in his department* considered sending the bill for policing such a demonstration to the Secretary of State for Defence or to *The Sunday Express*.

Mr Whitelaw said he could not give the figure without notice. If I were to send the bill to all those people who organize and run demonstrations the majority of them would be having considerable *difficulties – (Labour interruptions)* -i on all sides. If he would like me to send the bills, I would be pleased to do it.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford, C): I would like him to send some bills to those organizations which put on demonstrations in the streets of London. As the number of demonstrations has increased sevenfold in nine years and as people are increasingly taking politics on to the streets, which means cost and inconvenience to the general public and particularly the ratepayers of London, is it not about time they were asked to pay for it?

Mr Whitelaw: Those who decide to have marches and demonstrations, which is their democratic right, must accept their full responsibilities. I have in the green paper on public order make clear there are formidable problems of principle and practice in suggestions for making payment of costs a condition for control and indeed in deciding the costs.

£50,000 prize for joint bingo game

The Government was prepared in principle to accept the proposal by the bingo trade associations for a new joint game with a maximum prize of £50,000, Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said during questions about possible changes in the law on bingo clubs.

Mr Mellor, who said there had been *a decline in attendances at bingo* halls, added that details of how the games were to be played and controlled would be discussed by the Home Office and the Gaming Board with the associations.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): There has been a decline of about 13 per cent in attendance at bingo halls in the last year and the existence of many is threatened. Over and above increasing the level of prize money allowed will he also consider removing some of the restrictions on advertizing?

Mr Mellor: There has been a decline in bingo hall attendances. The halls provide a valuable social club atmosphere for many.

We are looking at ways in which we can work with the associations but it has to be compatible with our overall policy to see that the social element, rather than the prospect of financial gain, predominates.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South West Staffordshire, C) asked if this meant the Government was encouraging *gambling*.

Mr Mellor: No, it is not. It has always been our view that there should not be encouragement to growth in gambling. But when attendances have declined and a reasonable proposal is put forward to allow the associations to attract some of the lost trade, it would be wrong and damaging to the interests of those enjoying bingo if we stood in the way of those proposals going forward.

Exercise at bunker was valuable

No instruction had been issued to chief executives of local authorities to be based within a certain radius of a nuclear shelter, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State for Home Affairs, said.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab): Then can he explain why the metropolitan borough of Sefton is spending £1m to move the chief executive's office from Bootle to leafy Southport to be near the nuclear fall-out bunker so that he can get there but the people of *Bootle cannot."*

It is a waste of money. When they had a practice run, they arrived without a key at the bunker and had to wait for the caretaker who came an hour later on his bicycle. (laughter)

Mr Mayhew: That shows how valuable exercises are. (renewed laughter), I hope he will do all he can to drive home the importance of that lesson.

Making hotels pay more for TV rejected

Putting further burdens on hotels by making them pay a licence fee for each television set they had was not the answer to helping pensioners *with their licence fees, Mr David* Mellor, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said during exchanges on concessionary licences for pensioners.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) said some local authorities appear to be abusing the system by appointing wardens merely to take control of groups of dwellings so that more elderly people could take advantage of the cheap television licences. This was particularly rife among Labour authorities.

Is this fair to the public (he asked) who are responsible for the expenditure, or to the elderly people who still are unable to get the benefit of these concessionary licences?

Mr Mellor: We recognize, as the last Government did, that the situation is anomalous. The difficulty is that it is impossible equitably to take away a concession from those who have it. It is not economically realistic to extend it to all pensioners, nor would that be justified.

He is referring to Sheffield City Council. They have not got permission for that scheme. We wait to hear from them about it. It should not be assumed that permission *would fall within* the terms of the scheme.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab): Those who want to help pensioners believe that the cost could in part be met by a proper charge being levied on hotels and other commercial premises which pay a single television licence fee for what in the case of the Savoy Hotel, is 365 television receivers.

Mr Mellor: I do not think that putting further burdens on the hotel sector which gives employment to people, is really the answer.

The Labour Party has made a promise on this point, but it is not as easy as it sounds, without unfair consequences on others, to grant this concession to pensioners across the board.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Solvent Abuse (Scotland) Bill, report. Charities Bill, report. Dog Licences (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill and Age Discrimination Bill, second readings. **Lords** (11): Private member's Bill: Parochial Charities (Neighbourhood Trusts) Bill, second reading.

Stumbling over poll question

GENERAL ELECTION

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister once again refused in the Commons to be drawn on the subject of the election date, even though she was accused of putting party advantage before the country's good in deferring a decision until she had had a chance to analyse the local election results.

Her questioner on the subject, Mr Richard Mitchell (Southampton, Itchen, SDP) commented: Her decision to postpone telling this House whether or not there is to be a General Election, until after she has had a chance to analyse the local election results, shows clearly . . .

Mr Mitchell hesitated and there was loud Conservative laughter.

Mr Mitchell: . . . shows quite clearly that, *despite all her fine words* and moral gestures, she is the same as all the rest – a cynical person prepared to put party advantage before the good of the country.

Mrs Thatcher: I think that by his stumble he provided the answer to his own question by showing the hollowness of the question.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition: When the Prime Minister said earlier this week that she would announce the date in the normal method, was she referring to the story attributed to the Home Secretary today where it is leaked – that is the method of telling us – and where it is said: "June 9 is poll date – Whitelaw".

If that is the case, should she not tell us herself?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not think that *merits a reply. (Labour protests.)*

Mr. Foot: She cannot dismiss the matter that way. Is she repeating the statement which appears in *The Birmingham Post?* Or is it false, and will she be correcting the Home Secretary on the matter?

Mrs Thatcher: I have nothing to add to what I said last week on the first part.

Cults buying farm land

The Agricultural Holdings (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, which amends the law relating to termination of tenancies and variation of rent of agricultural holdings in Scotland, was read a second time in the House of Lords.

During the debate Lord Rugby (Ind), a Warwickshire farmer, speaking of the need for young men with families and with limited capital to be given an opportunity to start up farms, said there had been a large spreading of religious cults buying land and bringing in their followers, as cheap labour, to act as workers on the land.

They presumably got the benefits of charitable tax avoidance.

Kohl stands firm despite pressure from right

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Solid, old-fashioned, long-winded and rather dull is how most Germans have judged Chancellor Kohl's declaration of his Government's policies for the next four years.

There is a general satisfaction in Christian Democratic circles that Dr Kohn did not make any noticeable concessions to the right, or allow the demands of his coalition partner, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, to have any visible effect on his policies. And his determination to pursue a dialogue with the East while remaining firmly anchored in the Western alliance *has met with overwhelming* approval.

Most criticism was directed at the Government's social policies and plans for domestic reform. Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, said Dr Kohl's programme was no solid basis for the next four years, and attempted to meet the challenges of today with the recipes of the 1950s.

Herr Vogel, however, promised that his party would support what was worth supporting, would offer constructive opposition rather than obstruction and would give full backing to West Germany's place in Nato.

But Herr Vogel refused specifically to endorse Nato's arms modernization programme, and said his party wanted to know whether the intermediate arms talks in Geneva could be combined with talks on strategic weapons and whether the British and French missiles could be included.

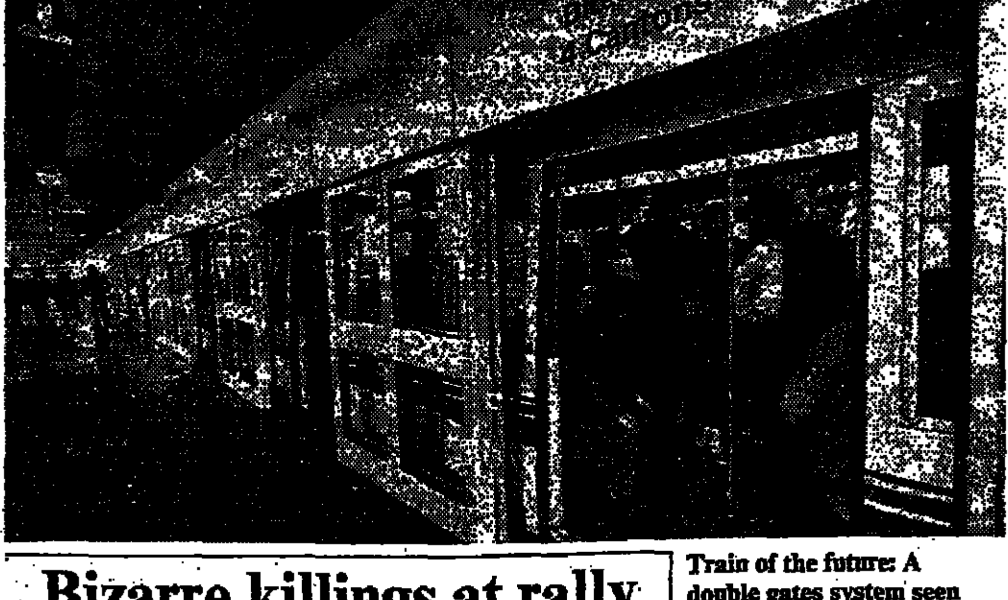
For CSU members, who appeared somewhat aggrieved that their demands had been sidestepped, Herr Theodor Aigel spoke at length on future relations with East Germany, which have been a main point of dispute within the coalition. He called again for a tougher policy, denounced East German harassment of West German visitors and called on East Berlin to do more to encourage good neighbourly relations.

The Greens, who made their presence clear with an attempt to unfurl a flag during the Chancellor's speech in protest at policy towards Nicaragua, opposed every *aspect of the* Government's policy. They called for an immediate halt to plans to deploy the new Nato missiles, denounced American policy in Latin America, accused the Government of hypocrisy in criticizing the Eastern Block, and gave notice that they would throw "all their strength and physical existence" into the fight against the weapons in the autumn.

The three-day debate, which began immediately after the Chancellor's speech, will deal largely with some of the complicated details of the fiscal reforms

The Chancellor's performance has been described as lacking in brilliance – he is certainly no great orator – and platitudinous. But against that are set his qualities of moderation, steadiness and political skill in playing down the divisions within his coalition.

Most commentators admitted that Herr Vogel showed greater incisiveness, a self-confident *beginning* as leader *of* the opposition. But the Chancellor was unruffled by criticism and appeared confident that his programme represents the broad consensus within his coalition and the line that won him the election in March.



Train of the future: A double gates system seen operating on the new automated underground system in Lille, France, which doubles the safety by coupling the doors of the train with platform gates. The system is controlled by a five-man crew through 25 video screens which map the trains progress every two seconds. Controllers can talk to passengers through a telephone in each carriage

Bizarre killings at rally

Manila (Reuter) – At least 36 people died in bizarre circumstances at a month-long religious rally in the southern Philippines, according to the Health Ministry.

The deaths *occurred on* Mindanao island in March at a convention organized by a sect called the Philippine Benevolent Christian Missionaries *Association of Mercy.*

A health spokesman said that 10 of the victims were reportd by local newspapers to have been hacked to death by other members of the sect after they lost confidence in the leader's faith-healing powers.

The others apparently died *from* gastro-enteritis caused by insanitary conditions at the camp where the rally was held in a remote part of Misamis province. The regional health *office* reported that armed sect followers had prevented health officials from entering

Italy picks June 26 as polling day

From Peter Nichols
Rome

This weekend will see the first plunge by Italy's political *leaders into the election* campaign after the Cabinet yesterday set June 26 and 27 as polling days.

The Cabinet meeting lasted *five minutes indicating that the* Christian Democrats had abandoned hope of a date a week earlier. They argued that the summer holidays would have begun by the last week in June. In fact, they discovered that a million Italians had already booked to be away by June 26 but their coalition partners saw no virtue in an earlier date.

Fears have been expressed that the wounding on Tuesday of Professor Gino Giugni, a Socialist expert in social legislation, could foreshadow renewed terrorist violence during the campaign.

The second fear in these early stages is that the voting will be marked by many abstentions and blank voting slips. This is believed likely because of the absence of a central issue in the campaign and a growing dissatisfaction with the conduct of the principal political parties.

Tongues of parrots off the menu

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong

Chinese gourmets in Hongkong are amused rather than angered over the Westminster protest by Sir Anthony Royle, the former Aviation Minister, against the serving of parrot tongues and monkey brains in restaurants.

Sir Anthony's demand that the Hongkong Government ban these dishes came after a report to him by Mr Fred Thomas, the Hongkong chief of the RSPCA.

In a written parliamentary reply (prominently reported by the Hongkong press yesterday) Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, said The Hongkong Government has no knowledge of parrots' tongues or monkeys' brains being served in Hongkong restaurants."

It is an open secret that monkey brains are often prepared for private parties and at celebration dinners in some Chinese restaurants, although they are not listed on the menu.

Tactical victory for Republicans on nuclear freeze vote

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

After 53 hours of contentious debate spread over the past two months, the House of Representatives finally passed a resolution late on Wednesday night calling for a "mutual and verifiable freeze and reductions in nuclear weapons" by the United States and the Soviet Union. The vote was 278 to 149.

However, the political impact of this resolution was considerably reduced by a Republican amendment, approved earlier in the evening, that would revoke the freeze if it was not followed by negotiated arms reductions" within a reasonable, specified period of time".

The amendment represented a considerable tactical victory for the Republicans, as it saved President Reagan from suffering yet another setback on the freeze issue. A day earlier, America's Roman Catholic bishops had voted overwhelmingly to endorse a pastoral letter calling for a halt to the testing, production and deployment of new nuclear weapons.

Mr Robert Michel, the House Republican leader, described the amentment as "a Victory unthinkable only weeks ago" Mr Elliott Levitas, a Democrat who backed the amendament, said: "There must be reductions, or else the freeze thaws."

The freeze resolution is non-binding and is regarded as a symbolic expression of the rapidly-growing grass-roots campaign against the nuclear arms race. This anti-nuclear sentiment was eloquently expressed in the Roman Catholic bishop's 150-page letter, entitled: *The Challengwe of Peace; God's promise and our response.*

The freeze resolution now goes to the Republican-controlled Senate, where its fate is uncertain. Mr Reagan has said he will veto the measure if it reaches the White House.

The Administration had lobbied strongly against the freeze because, it maintains, it would leave the Soviet Union in a position of nuclear superiority and would weaken the hand of American negotiators at the twi sets of missile talks in Geneva.

Depite the watering down of the final version of the resolution, supporters in the House of the freeze seemed pleased with the outcome, dismissing the amendment as a "nuisance at best". Mr Thomas (Tip) O'Neill, the House Speaker, described the resolution as a "unique instance in the history of arms control," adding that it was a message from the American people to recognize that "the onrushing train of nuclear weapons must be stopped".

Congressmen confirmed that both the bishop's letter and the latest proposal for nuclear arms reductions by Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, had had an impact on the vote.

The Administration's reaction to the pastoral letter has been deliberately low-key, even though it represnts a direct challenge to the Administration's nuclear policies.

Mr Reagan said he had little quarrel with the letter, the full text of which he had not yet seen. "It really is a legitimate effort to do exactly what we are doing, and that is to try and find ways towards world peace."

● LONDON: Mr Reagan's recent decision to spend more money on developing anti-ballistic missile systems could only benefit Nato, according to one of his closest White House aides, Henry Stanhope writes.

Mr Edwin Meese admitted to the Cambridge University Union that it was too early to predict the results. But the idea -r dubbed *Star Wars* technology when announced by the President six weeks ago - was not beyond the imagination.

The US would share such technology with the allies, thus ensuring "linkage" across the Atlantic, he said last night in the annual Lord Mountbatten Memorial Lecture. There was a "moral attractiveness" about placing the emphasis on defensive systems instead of on an endless accumulation of offensive weapons.

He said that the President was also trying to promote "early and genuine" progress in the Geneva talks on intermediate-range nuclear forces through his latest proposal for an *interim* agreement.

Mr Paul Nitze, the chief American negotiator, had told the Russians that the US would "substantially reduce" the number of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles which are due to be deployed in Western Europe from December, if the Soviet Union would cut the number of its own warheads to an equal, global ceiling.

The question which Mr Reagan was putting to the Russians was: "If not elimination, to what equal level are you willing to reduce?"

The US had perceived the need to apply imagination to the problems posed by the arms race in Europe. "We are hopeful that the Soviet leadership understands our emphasis on the ultimate goal of removing an entire class of nuclear weapons. An interim agreement should not simply be a resting pause before the next crescendo in the arms race."

Mr Meese, who is counsellor to the President, described it as a tragedy that the superpowers had not agreed on common strategic doctrines during the arms control talks.

Leading article, page 11



Across the Bamboo Curtain: Soldiers standing guard outside the perimeter fence at Chunchon military base (above) after the hijack of the Chinese Trident to South Korea. Below, a crew member watches from one of the aircraft's windows.

Chinese jet hijack triggers invasion alert in S Korea

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul

A hijacked Chinese airliner with 105 people on board triggered an invasion alert yesterday when it flew across Communist North Korea and the demilitarized zone and landed in South Korea.

The aircraft landed at a US airbase at Chunchon, 45 miles north-east of Seoul and 30 miles south of the demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea.

Two wounded crew members who had been shot in the hijacking, were taken off the aircraft on stretchers and transferred to hospital. The passengers and other crew were allowed to leave the aircraft and were taken to a hotel in Chunchon seven hours after landing.

The China State Airlines plane was a British-built Trident on a scheduled flight from Shenyang in Manchuria to Shanghai. Three of the passengers were Japanese, the rest Chinese.

Residents of Seoul realized there was an emergency when, only minutes before the aircraft landed, radio programmes on all channels were interrupted by an air raid warning.

Civil Defence headquarters announced that an enemy attack was imminent and warned that the raid was a real one, not an exercise. About three minutes later, however, the spokesman cancelled the warning without further explanation, and a three-hour news blackout followed before the Defence Ministry announced the landing of the airliner.

The pilot entered South Korean air space just before 2pm local time (5am GMT) and signalled to a South Korean Air Force patrol aircraft that he wanted to defect

The aircraft was shown on South Korean television, its passengers looking out of the windws and fanning themselves, its wheels ploughed into the grass off the runway. Pictures showed US and South Korean soldiers passing food and soft drinks on board.

A television reporter said



the pilot had immediately asked to see the Taiwanese Ambassador and it was reported that tow members of the Taiwanese Embassy in Seoul had gone to the airfield.

There was little reaction in Seoul to the air raid warning, as most offices and shops were closed and many people were out of town or visiting pleasure parks to celebrate Children's Day,

In February thhis year, a North Korean Air Force captain, Li Ung-Pyong, aged 28, defected to South Korea in his Chinese-built MiG 19 and a 25-year-old Chinese pilot defected from mainland China, also in a MiG 19, to South Korea last October and later went to Taiwan.

In Taipei, A Taiwanese Foreign Ministry official said "all genuine freedom seekers" would be welcomed in Taiwan.

It was the first successful attempt to hijack a Chinese commercial aircraft.

Crucial day for Shultz shuttle

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The personal reputation of Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, as well as the standing of American foreign policy in the Middle East hangs on the outcome of an emergency session of the Israeli coalition Cabinet due to begin this morning.

The meeting has been convened by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, to decide Israel's reaction to the lengthy draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon which Mr Shultz has hammered out during his hectic maiden shuttle mission to the region.

It is generally recognized that there can be no chance of America pressing forward with plans for a wider Middle East framework until all foreign armies can be persuaded to leave Lebanese soil.

Despite official American optimism that the agreement will be clinched by the time Mr Shultz leaves for Damascus tomorrow for the more difficult second leg of his trip to secure Syrian acquiescence, Israeli officials maintained the suspense throughout yesterday with a lengthy series of meetings designed to secure "clarification".

By last night, it became clear that one of the central issues on which the Cabinet will have to decide is the role of the Israeli-backed Lebanese militia leader, Major Saad Haddad. There were indications that ministers would be asked to change their original demand that he be appointed overall military commander of southern Lebanon.

There were predictions that the Cabinet session may include an attempt by Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister and chief architect of the Lebanon war, to ensure that Israel does not agree to concessions in the security field. He is likely to be out-voted by supporters of his successor, Mr Moshe Arens.

It is understood that two of the key issues, the role of Major Haddad and the future of United Nations forces in southern Lebanon will be covered in separate letters of understanding, rather than the main body of the agreement.

While the last-minute talks continued, the Israeli Government again emphasized that the non-negotiable conditions of pulling its army out of Lebanon remained: 1 the prior evacuation of the estimated 7,000 Palestinian fighters; 2 the simultaneous withdrawal of all Syrian troops; 3 the safe return of all Israeli prisoners of war.

New President sworn in

Mr Chaim Herzog, the popular former Labour Party politician, journalist, and ex-head of military intellegence, who was formally sworn in as the sixth President of Isreal in the Knesset last night. He succeeds Mr Yitzhak Navon, who has yet to take a final decision whether he will return to political life.

The election of Mr Herzog, who was born in Belfast and is the son of a former Chief Rabbi of Ireland, provided a serious political setback to the ruling coalition of Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, whose own little-known candidate was beat in a Kesset vote.

Mr Herzog, who is 64, has pledged to try to heal the divisions in Israeli socity.

Bishops call again for amnesty

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

The Polish Catholic Church issued a fresh appeal yesterday to the Government to lift martial law, free political prisoners and reinstate sacked Solidarity activists in connexion with the Pope's visit to Poland next month.

The call came in a communiqué after a two-day meeting of Poland's bishops in Czestochowa, which was dominated by the subject of the papal visit. There is considerable tension in church-state relations despite Government's statemenmts to the contrary exacerbated by the past week of demonstrations and clashes.

Many of the protests began after the celebration of Mass, despite official warnings that the church should distance itself from social unrest. A mysterious break-in into a Franciscan convent in Warsaw by an organized group of young men in plain clothes believed by church activists to be security police has added a new source of irritation.

The bishops did not mention these problems in their communiqué but church sources made clear that they will be raised in the next meeting of the joint Church-State Commission. The call for an amnesty echoes the sentiment voiced recently in a private letter from the Pope to the Poish head of state, Professor Jablonski.

It is evident both from the phrasing of the communiqué and from other church declarations that the freeing of political prisoners or the lifting of martial law are not strict pre-conditions of the papal visit. The Government has already stated that the present process of granting clemency to individuals is suficient and that the granting of a general amnesty would be premeture.

The church leadership is trying to avert a situation similar to that which occurred last December when martial law was suspended but simultaneously the penal code was tightened.

Paris keeps spy arrest secret

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Five Frenchmen suspected of having passed secrets to Russian agents were arrested by French intelligence officers shortly before the expulsion from France on April 5 of 47 alleged Soviet spies.

Three were later released after questioning, but two are still in custody, charged with working for a foreign power.

M Patick Guerrier, aged 25, an archivist with a precision engineering firm, is suspected of having given photocopies of confidential plans belonging to the firm to a commercial attaché at the Russian Embassy in Paris. His arrest in Meaux, just outside of Paris, at the end of March was made public at the time and is not considered of great importance.

The arrest of M Juge (his first *name is not - known*), an engineer and inventor, aged 57, has been kept secret, however. He was apparently caught red-handed as he was passing important secrets in the Bois d'Arcy on the outskirts of Paris to a Russian "contact" at the Russian trade mission in Paris.

Although those arrests did not lead directly to the expulsion of the alleged Soviet spies, the documents involved are understood to have featured in the dossier compiled by French intelligence against the 47 Russian diplomats and other officials, who included M Eugene Moukhine, the chief press attaché at the Russian Embassy, three Russians working for the Unesco secretariat in Paris, and a number of the official Russian delegation to Unesco,

So far no reprisals have been *taken against the French by the* Russians.

Explaining that decision in an interview with the German magazine, *Der Spiegel*, on April 25, M Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, said: "In showing moderation, we have been guided by concern for the long-term Franco-Soviet relations, which are important for us and which have been built up over a long period in the interests of preserving détente in Europe ...

"I do not want the blame for the grossly provocative action against the Soviet people to fall on the French socialists, and even the communists."

The Kremlin's decision to show moderation should not be interpreted as proof of the guilt of the expelled Russians, however. He insisted. "If anyone interprets our attitude in that *way, they understand nothing* about Soviet foreign policy.

Soviet links with Iran at new low

Moscow (Reuter) – Iran's expulsion of 18 Soviet diplomats and its move against the Tudeh (Communist) Party mark the collapse of Moscow's efforts to build a working relationship with the revolutionary leaders of its southern neighbour.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the decision to expel the envoys, announced on Wednesday, brought Soviet-Iranian ties to their lowest level since the 1979 Islamic revolution and most predicted that relations would not easily recover.

"This move will not have surprised Moscow, but the Kremlin will deeply regret what *amounts to a final affirmation* of complete failure in its policy towards Iran", one Western analyst of Middle Eastern affairs said.

After the radical Muslim leadership took control in Tehran in *1979*, the Soviet Union repeatedly expressed support for the Islamic revolution and offered political cooperation and increased trade.

The ruling Iranian clergy remained cool towards Moscow's wooing even at the height of its confrontation with the United States over the detention of American hostages in the US Embassy in Tehran.

On the Societ side, there were occasional signs of anger with Tehran, especially when the Societ mission there came under attack from Afghan students, and evidence of dirrerences within the Moscow party leadership over how to approach the Iranian Government.

The over three years, Moscow kept up its overtures. Only in the past few months did disenchantment become noticeable as the first sharp press attacks on the course of the Iranian revolution appeared.

The Soviet media has so far remained silent on both the decision to expel the diplomats, who were accused of interfering in internal affairs, and the bamming of the Tudeh Party.

The move against the party, which was proscribed under the Shah, followed a televised confession from Tudeh leader Mr Nureddin Kianuri that he had spied for Moscow.

Moscow has also made no mention of this, although *Pravda* last month attacked the Iranian authorities for arresting Mr Kianuri, saying charges that he was a Soviet agent were baseless.

Western diplomats predicted the Soviet leadership would not retaliate against the expultions and was likely to issue no more than a sharp commentary on the treatment or the Tudeh Party.

Leading article, page 11

Rumasa's former owner fails to appear in court

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos, the former owner of the Rumasa business empire expropriated in February by the Spanish Government, failed to appear in court here yesterday to answer an investigating magistrate's summons.

Since shortly after the takeor ordered by the González Government to avoid a crash *which would have threatened* the Spanish banking system, Señor Ruiz Mateos, aged 52, has been staying in London.

The judge, Señor Luis Lerga, who is inquiring into alleged accountancy fraud, illegal transfer of money abroad, and non-payment of taxes and social security contributions, declined government lawyers' demands for a warrant for the immediate arrest of Señor Ruiz Mateos.

Instead he ordered him to appear *in court* next *Tuesday*, granting him a second chance to show that he was not seeking to pervert the course of justice.

The judge said that lawyers for Señor Ruiz Mateos, who has denied the charges several times through the press, had not given sufficient reason for his non-appearance.

Rome envoy recalled by Argentina

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome

Argentina has recalled its Ambassador to Italy amid the deepening crisis between the two countries over the hundreds of Italians among the thousands of "disappeared ones" declared dead by the Argentine Government last week.

The Argentine Embassy said that Señor Rodolfo Luchetta had been recalled "indefinately" for consultations on the crisis.

The Italian Foreign Ministry said no decision had been taken *on a possible recall* of Signor Sergio Kociancich, the Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires,

A memorandum from Signor Kociancich asking for information about the fate of 407 Ialians and people of Italian descent has been roughly rejected by the Argentine Foreign Ministry and called "unacceptable and such as to represent interefrence in the internal affairs of Argentina".

The sharp increase in tension came after a scathing attack at the weekend by President Pertini on Argentina's military regime.

● THE HAGUE: A *former* Argentine police official has claimed that some civilians who disappeared during Argentina's "dirty war" are still in government-run concentration camps, and that the political disappearances are continuing, AP reports.

"The Argentine military junta still keeps political *prisoners* in secret", Señor Rodolfo Fernandez said, contradicting the junta's "final document on the war against subversion and terrorism" issued last week.

Pretoria unveils long-awaited reforms

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African Government yesterday unveiled its long-awaited constitutional reforms, which if put into effect would give the country its first multiracial parliament, but keep ultimate control in white hands through the office of a new and powerful executive presidency.

The reforms, entitled the Constitution of the Republic of South African *Bill 1983*, were placed before Parliament by Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of *Constitutional Development*, and immediately opposed by the far-right Conservative Party, which broke away from the ruling National Party last year.

The liberal Progressive Federal Party which considers the reforms grossly inadequate because they exclude black Africans, said it would not oppose the *Bill at this stage*. The first major test of white reaction will come next week in four crucial by-elections in the Transvaal.

The Bill provides for a new parliament divided into three houses, one each for the country's 4.6 million whites, 2.7 million mixed-blood Coloured and 850,000 Asians (almost all Indians). Each house would be elected on a separate voters' role. The 21 million Africans would remain unrepresented.

The parliament would have a total of 308 members. The existing House of *Assembly*, with its 178 members, would become the white house. To this would be added a House of Representatives of 85 members for Coloureds and a House of Deputies of 45 members for Asians.

The new president, who would combine the ceremonial and executive functions presently exercised by the state President and the Prime Minister, *would* be chosen by the majority vote of an electoral college composed of 50 whites, 25 coloureds and 13 Asians.

Each house, again by majority vote, would nominate delegates from among its own members to fill these quotas. This means that so long as it retained a majority in the white house, the National Party would control the election of the President.

The Bill gives very wide powers to the President. He would initiate and have the final say on legislation, appoint ministers, and could dissolve and summon Parliament at will. He could only be removed if all *three houses separately* passed a vote of no-confidence.

The President would also have a crucial role in resolving deadlocks when the three houses cannot agree on legislation, and in determining whether legislation comes under the heading of "general affairs" or "own affairs".

The new constitution lists social welfare, education, housing, health, agriculture, arts, culture and recreation as largely being "own affairs" – i.e. matters on which each house would legislate separately for its own race group.

All other matters are considered to be "general affairs" and would have to be approved by a majority in each house. The parliament would never *vote jointly* on anything, so it would not be possible for an alliance to be formed across the colour lines to outvote the majority group in the White House.

It is acknowledged, However, that there would be grey areas between "general" and "own" affairs, and the President would decide in these cases. It is far from clear, For example, whether matters affecting Africans would *continue to* be solely a white concern or become a "general" matter.

If the houses cannot agree on "a general" matter, the President can himself submit a new version of the offending legislation, or ask the President's Council for a ruling.

Lesotho Cabinet opposes chief's tour to the east

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg

Chief Leabua Jonathan, the Prime Minister of Lesotho, the Commonwealth enclave surrounded by South African territory, leaves today on a visit to Peking, North Korea, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria.

He is expected to hold discussions on the establishment of full diplomatic relations with the five communist countries.

Sources said that the tour had been strongly opposed by the Lesotho Cabinet. The Prime Minister has been warned that the Lesotho Liberation Army, the militant wing of the opposition Basuto Congress Party, which he outlawed in 1970, could be expected "fully to exploit" his absence.

Pretoria, too, is viewing Chief Jonathan's travel plans with concern.

Divers join hunt for submarines

Stockholm – The Swedish Navy yesterday continued its hunt for at least two suspected Soviet midget submarines off its east coast, Christopher Mosey writes.

Two depth charges were dropped and divers sent down into the bay near the industrial town of Sundsvall where two mines were detonated on Wednesday night. The Navy said it could not release news of its findings.

Major Bengt Sjoholm, the Defence Ministry spokesman, said it was "highly unlikley" *that* the submarine had escaped the explosion unscathed. He refused to comment on the possibility of it having been sunk.

Chernenko has pneumonia

Moscow (AP) – Mr Konstantin Chernenko, believed to have been the main rival of Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, in the leadership contest, has pneumonia, his office said yesterday, confirming accounts about his health given earlier by other Soviet sources.

Mr Chernenko who is 71, has not been seen in public for more than a month, missing four important party gatherings and prompting speculation about his status. He was recently absent from May Day celebrations in Red Square.

Women admit killing Saudi

Geneva (AP) – Two Swiss women aged 19 and 25 have claimed responsibility for the savage killing of a Saudi diplomat, aged 51, whose sexually mutilated body was found in a Geneva hotel on March 10.

It looked like an act of revenge "given the nature of the injuries", the investigating magistrate said. The victim, whose name was withheld, had rented a flat at the hotel since mid-1981. He was a cultural attache with the Saudi mission at the United Nations.

A-plant leak is plugged

Brussels – The nuclear power plant at Tihange on the Meuse resumed normal working after a 10-day break for repairs to a *pump*. A small amount of slightly radioactve water which leaked through the pump was all collected and stored. Intercom, the company running the plant, said. None of it escaped from the plant.

Jumbo loss

Hattiesburg (AP) – Ever since Gracie the goat disappeared from Kamper Park Zoo in the floods that engulfed the Mississippi areas last month, Babar the elephant has not eaten and is heartbroken. A $100 reward is now offered for the return of Gracie, arthritic, fragile and looking every one of her 15 years.

ETA's murders

Madrid. – The military wing of the extreme leftwing organization ETA claimed responsibility for the murders in Bilbao of a police corporal, his pregnant wife and a police *lieutenant. The military* wing also seriously wounded another policeman with machine gun fire at Guernica.

Barrel coffins

San Francisco (AP) – The decomposed bodies of a black man and two white women were found inside two cement-sealed steel barrels deposited on Tuesday night in Golden Gate Park. The women were in one barrel, the man in the other.

Ethiopia call-up

Addis Ababa (Reuter) – Ethiopia, whose professional army is thought to be the largest in black Africa, has introduced compulsory military service for men between 16 and 30. Six *months' training* will be followed by two years in the Army, police or border guard.

Freedom leap

Paris (AP) – An engineer returning home from Cuba to Prague jumped from the airliner during its stopover at Orly, breaking a leg in doing so, and asked to go to Canada. The pilot demanded he be put back on board but the airport officials refused.

All perish

Bangkok (AP) – All 31 people on a Thai Air Force C123 turboprop transport were killed when it crashed *while landing* at the Takhli air base. Most of the victims were mechanics being switched from another base.

Pigs ahoy

Apia, Western Samoa (Reuter) – About 300 pigs living on Fakaofo atoll in the Tokelau Islands of the South Pacific have learnt to swim and fish, living on a diet of seaslugs, small molluscs and fish.

City dug up

Moscow (AP) – Archeologists have discovered what they think is the ancient city of Shahrihaivor under the Kimirekuum desert in Soviet Uzbekistan, Tass reports.

هكذا من الأصل

Princess braves modern perils of the turbulent Khyber Pass

From Michael Hamlyn, Landi Kotal, North-West Frontier Province

The arrest of the drug king of the Khyber 10 days ago cleared the way for the visit of Princess Anne yesterday to the mountainous pass leading to Afghanistan.

She was the first distinguished visitor to be allowed here for six months, ever since Mr William French Smith, the American Attorney-General, had an uncomfortable time when he arrived in the streets of the town in search of drug factories.

Not until the Princess's visit was actually under way was it finally decided that the pass was safe enough to allow her to drive up here. A visit to a dam and hydro-electric project had been planned as an alternative. Even so, she was not allowed to within less than six miles of the border.

After Mr French Smith's visit, the Pakistan authorities agreed with the elders of the two principal tribal groups in the pass to clamp down on the drug trade, which had developed so fast that the Khyber had taken the place of the Golden Triangle in South-East Asia as the drug capital of the world.

Twenty-seven drug processing plants were closed down, but the elders of one tribe were not able to control their young men and six new plants were soon opened up. Bullets flew in the valleys over the rivalry that followed. Shaikh Jumor, aged 35, owned four of the new stills.

According to Mr Jahanzeb Khan, the Commissioner for Pershawar, Shaikh Jumir was buying opium in Afghanistan, processing it in the Khymber valleys, and shipping it to the US and Europe. The British authorities say the 80 per cent of heroin on the streets of London comes from Pakistan.

Shaikh Jumir was arrested in Landi Kotal by the Palistan authorities who used a ruse, which they will not disclose, to trap him. "We might want to use the trick again," said Mr Khan, "so we cannot reveal how we did it."

With Shaikh Jumir behind bars in Peshawar sentenced by a military tribunal to three years in jail – "I favour a public flogging for him, as an example to others," said Mr Khan – the pass exploded into rioting. The tribal elders were warned again that the Pakistan authorities would react with the utmost vigour if the disturbances did not stop, and an uneasy calm had now descended.

According the Mr Shakeel Durrani, the Khyber political agent, Shaikh Jumir has caused the authorities more trouble than any other single individual. "He has contacts all over the world," he said. "I call this man the heroin king."

So, instead of a traditional deive past this teeming town and a visit to a spectacular viewpoint, where visitors can look down to the valleys and dark defiles that the Mujahidin and drug smugglers use in and out of the Soviet-occupied country, the Princess had to be content with the bleak grandeur of the drive along the pass to the headquarters of the Khyber Rifles here. She halted at the insignia of British regiments, carved into the hillside, and kept ever freshly painted.

She swept past the reassuring sight of a policeman, draped in bandoliers, and armed to the teeth standing every few hundred yards along the rocky way. To be fair, though, most of the male inhabitants of these parts were also walking around equally draped.

She was treated to a military occasion which might not have seemed out of place at Camberley. She had lunch in the officers' mess, sat afterwards on the lawn under the shade of a walnut tree for a display of dancing, and then sat formally for a regimental photograph. A pipe band greeted her, playing an immaculate "Scotland the Brave", and sped her on her way with "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow".

Her meal consisted of curried lamb, and bread baked on hot stones. She was presented with garlands of flowers and tinsel, and the dancing involved much whirling about and waving of swords.

The Princess rejoined the Andover of the Queen's Flight last night to return home.



Mitterrand defends Vietnam policy

President Mitterrand of France with Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's elder statesman (left), during talks in Peking yesterday. Mr Deng greeted reporters with a "Bonjour" and said France could put pressure on Vietnam to withdraw from Cambodia. M Mitterrand had earlier defended France's relationship with Vietnam and its refusal to grant recognition to the coalition of forces fighting for a Vietnamese withdrawal, David Bonavia writes.

He told a press conference on Wednesday that was anxious that Vietnamese troops should leave Cambodia, and that the country should achieve self-determination and neutrality through free elections. But "the coalition does not exercise enough pressure on Vietnam. I am afraid of a return to the previous methods."

M Mitterrand and Mr Deng had wide-ranging talks on multilateral and bilateral affairs. M Mitterrand also met Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minster. The President emphasized France's advanced technology, which could, he said, be put to use in the development of China's economy.

Nakasone defends free trade record

From David Watts
Singapore

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday headed off ;any potential criticism of Japan at the forthcoming Williamsburg economic summit with a strong presentation of his country's role as a defender of free trade.

After his criticisms of protectionism in the West on the opening day of his visit to Singapore, Mr Nakasone said that no other country in the world had done as much as Japan to open up its domestic markets over the past two years.

Tokyo, he said, had made four successive moves to open its domestic market and cited the 50 per cent increase in quotas for imported industrial products under the generalized system of preferences which is the principal gift to Asean which he has brought on his first visit to the South-East Asia region. Japan had promised to present the views of less developed countries at Williamsburg.

Under the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), rules Japan's residual import tariffs were now lower than some European countries, especially on agricultural products and Japan's low level of import tariffs on industrial goods now led the world.

Mr Nakasone said average tariff levels on imported industrial goods were about five per cent in the EEC, four plus per cent in the United States and about three per cent for Japan.

Things were moving too on the non-tariff barrier front, according to the Prime Minister, who said he had initiated revision of 18 existing laws which would simplify imports

Japanese largesse has been parsimonious by its standard of aid to other Asean countries towards Singapore has the greatest wealth per capita, and more improtantly, the leading economic problem between the two countries is likely to mean further expensive outlay for Japan.

The problem is over-support for the big petrochemical complex which is being built in Singapore with Japanese Government loans as a joint venture with Sumitono Chemical. The complex should have been in production a year ago, but the world market for petrochemicals long since collapsed and the Papanese side is in no hurry to start production which can only mean even greater losses when taken on top of the debt servicing already required.

Chamberlain returns to Darwin jail

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

Mrs Lindy Chamberlain, convicted of the murder of her baby daughter, Azaria, is likely to wait unto the end of June before she will know whether her plea to seek special leave to appeal to the High Court of Australia has been granted.

She will spend that time in Darwin's Berrimah jail where she was moved on Wednesday from Mulawa jail. She had been held there since last Friday after her appeal against her conviction of the murder of her 10-week-old daughter at Ayers Rock in August, 1980, was unanimously rejected.

Mrs Chamberlain was released on bail last November for the birth of her daughter Kahlia.

Fresh approach to EEC finances

Britain's contribution to Europe may be cut by 10 per cent

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Agriculture would receive less and less from an enlarged budget for the European Community under plans announced yesterday by the European Commission.

If adopted in its present form, this scheme could have the effect of reducing Britain's contribution to the Community by around 10 per cent in the short term.

The Commission believes that the long-term impact of the new system would be to develop new policies in non-agricultural areas which would directly benefit Britain.

Once the new system was working there would be no need for rebates to Britain. But until then the Commission believes special measures will be necessary to satisfy British demands for a more fairly balanced budget. Any agreed rebates, however, will have to take into account the view that Britain received "too much" maney back over the past three years.

The plans are meant to provide a whole new approach to the financing of the Community, replacing the present method of raising money which dates back to April 1970, and which is incapable of providing the budget with all the cash now needed.

The liquidity crisis has come about essentially because agricultural spending is so large that there is not enough money left to finance projects which could tackle the most important problems facing the Community – unemployment and industrial decline.

Britain as an industrial rather than agricultural nation has suffered worse than any other country from ths imbalance and its insistent pressure for a fairer system has forced the pace for reform.

Although urgently needed if the Community is to avoid going bankrupt, the new project is at best not going to be agreed until the Commission is preparing its draft budget for 1985 in a year's time.

This is because an essential element of the project involves raising the present ceiling on value-added tax revenues above the level agreed in 1970. This in turn means that the changes would need ratification by the Parliament of every member state – a long process after a long and difficult negotiation in the Council of Ministers which would itself have to agree unanimously a new package.

The Commission proposes ways of cutting back agricultural spending and raising any extra money needed to fund farm prices by new mechanisms.

This would leave a larger part of the existing budget free for other purposes. To this would be added the extra money from value-added tax revenues.

In very broad terms this would mean that the agricultural share of the budget would drop from its present level of around two-thirds of all available money to about a quarter.

The main points of the proposals are:

● Agriculture: Only 33 per cent of the total budget to be used on supporting CAP. Extra CAP money to be raised according to three indicators – agricultural production; gross domestic product per head of population; and the amount each country contributes to the net operating surplus of the Community.

● Value-added tax: Member states would have to pay up to 1.4 per cent of their VAT revenue instead of the present 1 per cent. This increase would have to be approved by national parliaments, but future increases of 0.4 per cent could be approved by unanimous approval of the council and a three-fifths majority of the European Parliament.

● Energy: The Commission is working on a big overall energy programme and reserves the right to propose a tax based on "non-industrial consumption" during the next few months.

Hu arrives in Romania to patch relations

Bucharest (AP) – Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party leader, arrived here on an official visit that signalled a Chinese diplomatic offensive in Eastern Europe.

President Ceausescu of Romania greeted his guest with two ceremonial kisses, and a guard of honour shouted "long live the Comrade General-Secretary," as Mr Hu acknowledged the cheers of about 3,000 flag-waving Romanians at Otopeni airport.

The welcome appeared to be much less lavish than the one given to former Chairman Hua Guofeng, the last Chinese leader to visit Eastern Europe, in 1978.

It is the first trip for Mr Hu since he took over as general-secretary of the party in June, 1981.

SPECTRUM

You may think you learnt by rote, but it could have been by 'morphic resonance'. Dr Rupert Sheldrake (right) has set the scientific world in turmoil with his theory that living things 'tune in' to the knowledge of their predecessors

Are we all on the same wavelength?

By Peter Lewis


Suresh Karadia

Are children quicker at learning to ride bicycles, or to roller skate, than they were at the turn of the century? Will tomorrow's children be quicker at learning to play video or computer games than the present generation? If so, could it be because they are able to "tune in" to the skills acquired by their predecessors?

The answers to these questions, if they could be accurately measured, might throw light on a radically new hypothesis which claims to explain what shapes the forms and behaviour of living things.

The theory of "formative causation" is advanced be Dr Rupert Sheldrake, whose name has been both celebrated and execrated among his fellow-biologists since he published a book called *A New Science of Life* nearly two years ago. In it he proposed that the embryos of living things "tune in" to a field created by past members of the same species – an undiscovered force in nature which operates on the simplest cell up to the most complex organism.

He calls it a "morphogenetic field", which operates across space and time by "morphic resonance" – from the Greek for form, *morphe*, and the sort of resonance whereby one musical instrument makes another vibrate. He believes that developing creatures receive, rather like a radio programme put out by past exemplars of their kind, a pattern-making transmission which makes legs into legs, arms into arms, and which makes frogs behave in a froggy fashion and dogs in a doggy one.

Sheldrake had respectable scientific credentials as a plant biologist, fellow of Clare College, Cambridge, and holder of a research fellowship of the Royal Society; but his hypothesis caused a furore. It postulated a new, immaterial force of nature that did not involve matter or energy and it conflicted head-on with the mechanist faith that everything can be reduced to physics and chemistry.

What of genetic programming? What of DNA? What of natural selection? Sheldrake believes their importance has been exaggerated. They are like the valves and copper wire connexions of a radio set: the actual programme is transmitted from somewhere else.

Denouncing Sheldrake as a heretic in a passionate and intemperate editorial, the editor of *Nature* magazine was appalled that this "infuriating tract" as being hailed as an answer to materialistic science. Sheldrake was not only wrong, he was encouraging the thought that "there might be a place for magic in science."

The *New Scientist*, on the other hand, championed Sheldrake's right to be heard and to be judged by experiment. It pointed out that "modern science itself is founded on a hypothesis that has not been specifically tested: that the materialist explanations are all that is required."

Both journals' correspondence columns sizzled like heated retorts for months. The *New Scientist* offered a £250 prize for the best idea for an experiment to test whether morphic resonance indeed exists. Meanwhile, the Tarrytown Group, a scientific ideas forum in Tarrytown, New York, offered a prize of $10,000 for the best test that confirms or refutes the hypothesis by 1985, open to anyone, scientist or not.

Now the *New Scientist* has announced the winning entry in its competition, a simple and cheap experiment, which could be carried out in schools, to test whether learning something is made easier by the fact that many other people – preferably millions of them – have learnt it before you.

The winner, a fluid mechanics lecturer from Nottingham, Dr Richard Gentle, argues that according to Sheldrake a nursery rhyme, such as "Twinkle, twinkle, little star", should be very easy to learn because of all the children who have learnt it in the past.

The problem is to find a comparable rhyme to test it against, and enough people who do not know the rhyme already. So he chose a four-line Turkish nursery rhyme, known to generations of Turkish children, and altered the word-sequence to produce a similar looking rhyme, which is in fact gibberish, though only a Turkish-speaker could tell the difference.

The idea is to invite groups of pupils in schools to learn one or other of the rhymes, timing how long it takes them to repeat one of them by heart. Then the average learning time for the genuine rhyme and the fake can be compared, nobody involved knowing which was which.

If the genuine rhyme is learnt more quickly, it could have been helped along by the pooled memory field of all those Turkish children. But will the result settle the matter? Not on its own, certainly. It is too wide-ranging a theory to be settled by a nursery rhyme and Sheldrake has devised other experiments.

If rats learn a new trick, other rats in other laboratories should become quicker at learning it. This effect was discovered by the psychologist, William McDougall, at Harvard, in the 1920s. Successive generations of his rats improved their speed of learning how to escape from a tank of water by means of a gangway.

This did not prove that they had inherited the ability. When the experiments were repeated in Australia, with unrelated strains of rats as controls, it was found that it made no difference which rats were used, their descendants *all* improved their performance.

Sheldrake has proposed a new experiment with rats in widely separate laboratories, to see if they affect one another's rate of learning as McDougall's rats seem to have done. Other experiments are possible with the growing of new crystals, with mutations in fruit-flies and with learning video games in, say, rural India.

If the theory is right, should we not have noticed its effect by now? Sheldrake believes we have. He says: "One of the mysteries of learning language is that babies do it so fast compared to adults. This applies also to an English baby learning Chinese, in Chinese surroundings, or visa versa. Children pick up the rules of the game, without text-books of grammar and start making up new sentences, using the language creatively.

"This sort of creative learning should be impossible on a stimulus-response model of learning. It led Chomsky to postulate an innate language ability, no matter what language, and therefore a 'deep structure' that all languages had in common. I believe it is morphic resonance at work. Any child picking up English, or Chinese, is assisted by the pool of previous learning of either language."

Sheldrake interrupted a well-established Cambridge career when he was in his thirties by going to Hyderabad to work at the International Crop Research Institute on improving strains and yields. He lived in a rajah's crumbling palace and his mind was freed to develop his theory. In 1978 he went to an ashram run by a Benedictine monk and wrote it down, in a hut under a banyan tree, on the banks of the river Cauvery in Southern India. After 18 months' work he brought back the first draft to his home in Newark, Nottinghamshire.

What made him start on his new science of life? It was the inability of current biology to account for the development of the plants he was working on. Cells that become leaves and cells that become stalks carry exactly the same DNA. The process of becoming a plant, a fish, a mammal or a human being is equally mysterious. The orthodox response is that one day we will be able to explain it in terms of incredibly complex interactions of physics and chemistry between cells, triggered by a DNA code. This is an act of faith. It is at least as simple, and perhaps more intelligible, to imagine the process being conducted by morphogenetic fields.

The fields account more easily for the amazing capacity of living things to regenerate or repair themselves. "If you cut off parts of an embryo, it regenerates the missing parts. If you cut a magnet in half you get two complete magnetic fields, not two halves", Sheldrake points out. "In both cases the field maintains its integrity."

A kind of Conservation of Form principle could account for the way the eye of a newt, robbed of its lens, will grow a new one out of its own iris, or the way any gardener can raise a whole plant from a small cutting. It could explain how flesh, bones and fingernails make good damage done to them.

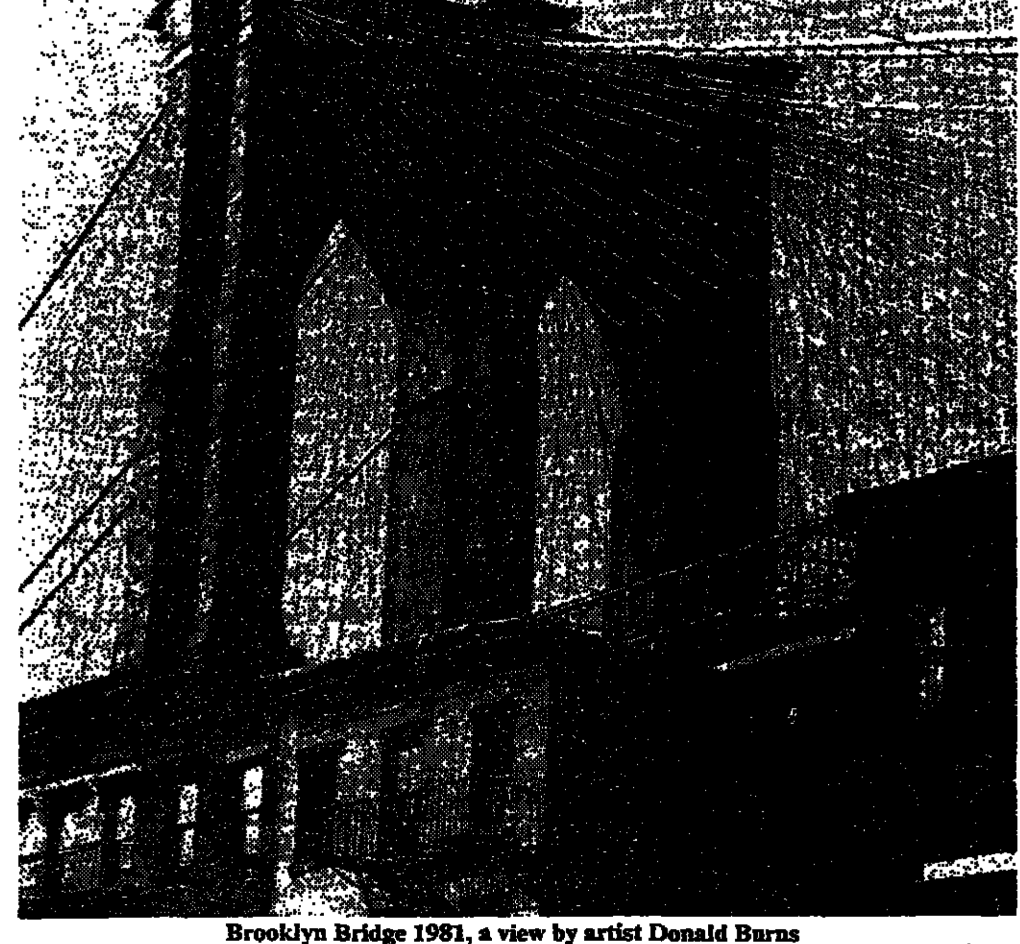
"I am not the first person to suggest that morphogenetic fields are needed to explain development," said Sheldrake. "What is new about my interpretation is that the fields derive their structure from the past. What gives a fingernail field a fingernail structure? Plato held that somewhere there was an eternal, archetypal fingernail. I say that the field is caused by actual fingernails of the past, a kind of pooled memory.

"Changes usually occur because the normal pathway is blocked, perhaps by a genetic defect or by a change in environment. Sometimes this defeats the organism. But in certain rare cases there is a creative jump." This can be seen when animals learn a new behaviour pattern. About 1952 blue tits learned how to open milk bottle tops and the habit spread through the tit population of Europe. Copying hardly seemed an adequate explanation of such a sudden and widespread new habit. Perhaps, after enough tits had learned the trick, a morphic resonance was set up affecting the rest.

Sheldrake's hypothesis meets the criterion of a scientific theory – it is verifiable by experiments which could prove its predictions. Sheldrake is eager to have it put to as many tests as possible. But supposing it fails the test – or that no confirmatory evidence can be found, what then? "If the balance of evidence is against it, I would have to abandon the theory," he says. "The possibility would remain that morphogenetic fields exist, though not created by past examples. They could be timeless, changeless principles, rather like Plato's archetypes. Or perhaps the mechanistic theory will ultimately explain everything without them."

His ideas have certainly caused a lot of excitement and attention: this week he goes to California, where he is already well known, to lecture on them. In June, he has been asked to go to Washington to address the Congressional Committee on The Future about his theory and its implications. And, who knows, somebody may even now be conducting the make-or-break experiment that may fundamentally alter our understanding of how life in its multifarious forms comes about.

The Brooklyn Museums, New York


Brooklyn Bridge 1981, a view by artist Donald Burns

One of New York's famous landmarks is 100 years old this month

The bridge so far . . .

One of the longest journeys in the world, Norman Podhoretz wrote, finding a particularly apt metaphor for the American Dream, is the journey from Brooklyn to Manhattan. The concrete symbol of that American aspiration is the Brooklyn Bridge, which celebrates its 100th birthday this month.

Even when it was new, the bridge assumed a mythic stature. An architectural critic, Montgomery Schuyler, welcomed it in 1883 with these words: "It so happens that the work which is likely to be our most durable monument, and convey some knowledge of us to the most remote posterity, is not a work of bare utility; not a shrine, not a fortress, not a palace . . ."

New Yorkers are preparing to celebrate the anniversary, but one trusts that the festivities will not be as hectic as those of the opening week, when such a massive holiday crowd surged on to the bridge that 12 people were trampled to death. Yet that was rather characteristic. From the beginning, sufficient tragedy attended the construction of the bridge to make it a truly heroic enterprise, and one that was immediately perceived as an expression of something in the American spirit.

Its progenitor, John A. Roebling, a German-born engineer, was killed by it. Roebling was one of those stern, determined characters that the nineteenth century specialized in producing the world over. Having emigrated in 1831, he founded a German settlement called Saxonburg, in Pennsylvania, where he intended to farm and, of all things, breed canaries.

Though the township prospered, Roebling's own means of support proved unsatisfactory, and he turned to making iron rope – the first in the United States. It was used in the cable railways that crossed the mountains of the state. Soon he was building suspension bridges, most spectacularly across the Niagara Falls but also in Pittsburg and Cincinnati.

The reverse side of his scientific rationalism was a passionate but unfounded belief in hydropathy – the curing of illnesses by bathing. When, down by the Brooklyn waterfront prospecting the site for one of the bridge towers, his foot was crushed by a docking boat, his response was to plunge it instantly into a tub of cold water. Tetanus set in and he died in horrible suffering three weeks later.

That was in 1869. His son, Colonel Washington A. Roebling, who had played a notable part at Gettysburg, took over, and the bridge left him a permanent invalid. The problem was the technique used to build the vast towers, each weighing 70,000 tons, on either side of the East River.

To sink the foundations, great bottomless wooden boxes called caissons – each half the size of a city block – were constructed, submerged by means of stones piled on the top, and pumped full of compressed air, which kept them watertight. Gangs of unskilled immigrant labourers, on the whole pleased to find jobs that paid more than the average, entered by means of airlocks and quarried down to bedrock by hand.

But some workers developed cramps and headaches and were seen to walk with a stoop, thereafter referred to as the "Grecian Bend" (the name of a ballroom dance). This malady was, of course, the bends, still known medically as caisson disease. After a long spell in one of the caissons when fire broke out in 1871, Washington Roebling collapsed.

Attacks recurred and he was forced to withdraw from the work altogether, lying in agony in a darkened room, although he finally recovered sufficiently to direct work from his house in Brooklyn, overlooking the site.

Twenty five men lost their lives while the bridge was being built. Many died from the bends – their legs, according to one contemporary account of their sufferings, "twisted like plaited hair". Because of the danger, the Manhattan caisson was stopped before bedrock was reached, so that the tower rests on packed sand. Some men fell from the towers or were killed when a suspension wire snapped and lashed back.

The bridge, 14 years in building, was subject to the graft and corruption inherent in most great American public works of the time. The notorious Tammany Hall politician, "Boss" Tweed, managed to gain control of the bridge company and award contracts, until he was imprisoned.

All Roebling's vigilance was necessary to prevent J. Lloyd Haigh, the cable contractor, from forging certificates or switching loads and sending to the bridge steel that the inspectors had failed.

Yet almost at once the bridge captured the public imagination. Even before it was begun, a Congressman called Barnes declared: "Babylon had her hanging gardens, Nineveh her towers, and Rome her Coliseum; let us have this great monument to progress."

When built, the towers – arched like the aisles of a Gothic cathedral – were among the city's tallest structures, head, shoulders and torso above the tenements of Brooklyn. To *Harper's Weekly*, they were "more wonderful than the Pyramids".

Needless to say, as soon as the bridge opened to the public there were those who either fell or deliberately threw themselves off it. A self-publicist swimming instructor called R. E. Odlum jumped to his death in 1885. Steve Brodie claimed to have leapt (he probably did not) and made a fortune out of reenacting the scene in a play called *On the Bowery*. The youth slipping from the catwalk in the film *Saurday Night Fever* is only the latest in a tradition.

In recent years, real-life tragedies have also occurred. In 1981, a pedestrian was killed when a stay parted and whipped downwards. But the engineers are confident that the bridge, built with human sacrifice and occasionally still exacting its toll, will survive another century yet.

Clive Aslet

The author is senior architectural writer for Country Life.

Play it again, Johannes

MOREOVER . . . Miles Kington

The notion that classical music is a stuffy kind of art received a severe knock this last week when the *Radio Times* informed its four million readers that Brahms, when young, had earned a living playing the piano in brothels in Hamburg. This came as a shock both to the pop fraternity, who thought that only the Beatles ever got started in Hamburg, and to jazz fans, who were under the impression that only Jelly Roll Morton got started in a brothel.

Morton, who had a diamond set in his teeth, played champion pool, pimped, claimed to have invented jazz and had a long-running rivalry with Duke Ellington, was actually a pale character when set beside Brahms. It is often forgotten that Brahms, too, claimed to have discovered jazz, though this was due to a misunderstanding for which he was not responsible.

It happened in the cotton fields near Budapest one day, when Brahms was out for a walk, trying to dream up another trick to play on Wagner – the Duke Ellington of his day. He gradually became aware that the workers in the fields were singing alluring and dangerously exciting rhythms as they turned the cotton into drip-dry tunics for the Imperial Court. Brahms's fingers snapped and his eyes sparkled.

"Hey, what do you call that kind of music?" he asked one of the singers.

"What do we call dat music?" said the man thus addressed, played by the young Louis Armstrong. "Why, we calls dat music jazz!"

This was a mischievous invention on his part, as they actually called it Hungarian folk music, but he reckoned that the young man with the mane of white hair and huge grey beard would fall for it. He was right. Hastily establishing that the folk tunes were not in copyright, Brahms turned them into concert display pieces and played them in brothels all over the world. At the end of the programme he would slam the keyboard lid shut, jump up and shout: "And that's jazz!"

As nobody knew what he was talking about, they preferred to call it Hungarian Dances, but either way, as they put it back in the cotton fields, they done stole our music again.

Brahms was always secretly disappointed that the stuffed shirt audiences didn't show more reaction, and he would often break off in the middle of a piece and observe drily to the listeners: "This place is licensed for dancing, you know."

Brahms liked to be in tip-top physical shape, mostly because he was waiting for the promised 12-round contest against Wagner that the latter seemed afraid to turn up for. "I'll get that Hun. By the end of round one," Brahms used to taunt him. "Just get me in the Ring with Wagner," he boasted to friends, "and I'll eat him for coffee break." Once the threatened fight did actually take place, but unbeknownst to Brahms, Wagner had hired Bruno Walter, the Bavarian Mauler, to take his place. Brahms only found out the truth after 12 gruelling rounds which the judges scored six to Brahms and six to his opponent, with Brahms winning the encore on points.

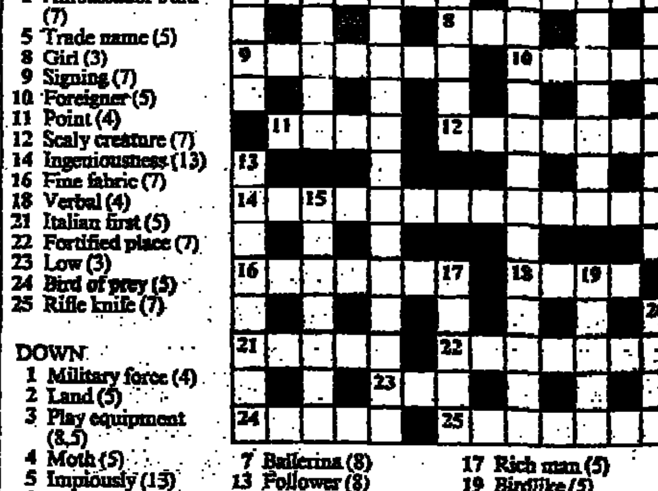
"Just, typical of Wagner," growled Brahms afterwards, "to send in a dep for a big gig." He later got his own back when he thrashed Wagner at snooker in the big Bayreuth Finals, 16 frames to three, and went on to meet the Russian champion, Tchaikovsky, whom he always considered rather too effete to be a really good snooker player.

Brahms was a larger-than-life character who had diamonds set in all the white keys of his travelling piano. Before he breezed into a new town, the place would be plastered with posters saying: "Brahms is coming! All pianists are requested to leave town for their own safety." And then the great man himself would arrive, in a white suit, surrounded by bodyguards and attended personally by the Abbé Liszt. The first thing he would ask on arrival was the address of the best brothel in town, and there he would sit for hours, strumming at the piano those old tunes he had learned back on the Danube levées and maybe accompanied by the singing of the madame (played by the young Billie Holiday). Then he would proceed to the concert hall and, in his own words, knock 'em in the aisles.

At the end of his life, when he was fat and heavy, he opened a bar in Vienna and became a bit of a nostalgic bore. I prefer to think of the Johannes Brahms with his razor-crease suits, his rakish straw hat and the slim cheroot, thrashing hell out of the 88 ivories and leaping into the audience to pummel any critic he spotted writing something adverse about him. Men still talk about the time he beat up three reviewers *and* issued four proposals of marriage during a performance of his first piano concerto, without missing a single note.

Forget about the BBC celebrations. Let's go out tonight and get drunk in his memory.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 54)



ACROSS
1 Ambassador's aid (7)
5 Trade name (5)
8 Girl (3)
9 Signing (7)
10 Foreigner (5)
11 Point (4)
12 Scaly creature (7)
14 Ingeniousness (13)
16 Fine fabric (7)
18 Verbal (4)
21 Italian first (5)
22 Fortified place (7)
23 Low (3)
24 Bird of prey (5)
25 Rifle knife (7)

DOWN
1 Military force (4)
2 Land (5)
3 Play equipment (8,5)
4 Moth (5)
5 Impiously (13)
6 Obstinate (7)
7 Ballerina (8)
13 Follower (8)
15 Concealing (7)
17 Rich man (5)
19 Birdlike (5)
20 Join (4)

SOLUTION TO No 53
ACROSS: 1 Unwrap 5 Depict 8 Loo 9 Raffia 10 Report 11 Char 12 Decorous 13 Object 15 Jaunty 17 Balletic 20 Pear 22 Cuddle 23 Zigzag 24 Fez 25 Talent 26 Indian
DOWN: 2 Neath 3 Referee 4 Plaudit 5 Doric 6 Paper 7 Circuit 14 Bravura 15 Jacuzzi 16 Unpaged 18 Ledge 19 Theft 21 Abaca
(Solution to No 54 on Monday) Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise English

هكذا من الاهل

FRIDAY PAGE

A man about the house

Swopping domestic roles seems to do more for sexual equality than the nagging of liberationists. Veronica Groocock talks to three couples who switched roles as a result of necessity after the husbands became redundant

● **As well as the normal stresses of being lone breadwinner, the working wife is prey to a set of traditional assumptions about the division of labour. She is the victim of a social system geared to male authority which effectively denies her very existence. The most obvious example of this is in relation to Family Income Supplement. A married woman cannot claim F.I.S. because, ostensibly, she is not the head of the household. Similarly, the jobless husband whose wife is supporting him is not eligible for supplementary benefit.**

According to the Low Pay Unit, up to 270,000 women are affected in this way. A spokeswoman said that usually a woman's wage was not enough to maintain a family, and yet the woman herself was barred from "topping up" her income with F.I.S. For most women breadwinners, therefore, it made more sense to become unemployed and fall back on supplementary benefit.

In November, thanks to an EEC directive, the F.I.S. ruling will be changed so that, for social security benefit purposes, the breadwinner's sex is immaterial.

The Low Pay Unit, while welcoming this, will continue to press for overall improvements in women's earnings. "For a long time now we've argued for a minimum wage as being of major value to women workers", said the spokeswoman. A recent report, *Families in the Future*, by the Study Commission on the Family, explodes the idea of the typical *worker as the married man with a* wife at home. Married women, it says, now represent a quarter of the workforce.

It states that more than two million children live in families with incomes around the poverty line. It also reveals that without women's earnings, four times as many families would be in poverty. As one woman lecturer/breadwinner said: "With unemployment as high as it is, who is and who is not the breadwinner is often a matter of luck, not choice."

John and Sue Tanner are in their late thirties and live in Scunthorpe. They own their home and have two children, William, aged 11, and Robert, aged nine. John, a former community relations officer, was made redundant in October. Sue is a welfare rights worker, a job she was offered only weeks before the news of John's redundancy. Previously she worked part-time at a local women's aid group, and before that was a full-time housewife.

Sue: "John has always been the sort of husband who did quite a lot at home. He took over a lot of the child care and housework. The problem for me is that my job is 25 miles away and I don't get paid as much as he did [just over £6,000 a year, compared with John's previous salary of £9,500]."

Financial worries aside, Sue is enjoying the swop. "I sometimes worry about what would happen if I lost my job. Every breadwinner does, I suppose. But I do get quite a kick out of being the one who brings home the money, and it's nice coming home to a cooked meal. . . . "We both felt that swopping jobs for a while would be good for us both. I am sure John is a lot more aware of what goes into running a house. Each of us appreciates the other one more than we did before.

"I don't always agree with the way he does things, like shopping or cooking. He bakes bread and feels very protective about it, and if I go out and buy a loaf he resents it."

Although John pays the bills, the Tanners have always pooled their finances and have a joint bank account. The drop in salary has meant a drop in their standard of living, with the "inevitable friction" if John wants to go to the pub.

Sue finds that being the breadwinner makes it far easier to treat home as a place of relaxation. "When you are at home with the children, there are always a hundred things you should be doing. You never actually relax. . . . Out at work, the lunch-hour is *yours* – time out for yourself."

John: "It's an opportunity to do things that one has always wanted. At 37 I have learned how to make pastry and bread, and I am keeping chickens. It's quite fun, as long as it doesn't go on too long." With a 30 per cent unemployment rate in Scunthorpe, the remark John regularly hears is "Lovely weather. Are you working?" He finds the isolation the hardest part.

"Your wife comes home from work and says: 'Had an interesting day?' You say: 'I cleaned the upstairs lavatory', and suddenly realize how boring you've become!

"At work you do have a lot of power and it's easier to feel you've done *something*. Even if you've sat there chewing your nails you've been to work and this is your justification for the day", said John. On the plus side, John sees more of their sons ("I have it easy because they are growing up now. It's not an onerous responsibility"), and has more control of the money, if less of it to spend.

John admits to a very strong need to be in work. "I say it doesn't matter, but, deep down it does. . . . Housewives are not valued very highly in society, and at the moment I'm a housewife and I don't really like it. The longer I go on the more desperate I shall become. But it has given Sue more status. I don't think she ever wanted to be a housewife at home with children. She is very happy at work and finds it stimulating and rewarding."

Jane and Peter Smith (not their real names) are in their fifties and live in a council house in Poole. They have three children, two still at home: a daughter, and a 22-year-old son who claims supplementary benefit. In June 1982 Peter, an electrical sales assistant, was made redundant after 27 years' service. Jane works for a firm of insurance brokers and her weekly take-home pay is £51. Peter was earning £4,000 a year plus commission.

Jane: "It was a crashing blow at Peter's time of life, because we thought we had gone through the worst years and were looking forward to an easier ride. All of a sudden we seemed to be back at square one." She gets angry, particularly at the bureaucratic anomalies, such as the provision of *family income supplement, that* militate against the married woman as breadwinner.

Things are unlikely to improve, she feels, until Peter finds another job. "I have always been on the side of the underdog, never dreaming that one day it would be *me* in that category." She worries constantly about the future. "There is this terrible uncertainty. I just don't know how it will end."

Peter: "Work was becoming an ordeal. I was being pressurized, and redundancy was suggested. I was heading for a nervous breakdown. I thought 'if I don't get out of here soon I will crack up'." His initial reaction was sheer relief. "We managed to get a holiday in Crete, with part of my [£3,000] redundancy money." Hopes of setting up his own business were dashed and he suffers from anxiety and depression and sometimes takes tranquillizers.

"I go to bed with a headache, and wake up with one. The tension affects my eyes. I have terrible eye strain. I sometimes think 'What is the point of going on?' I only have a few pounds left in the bank. We are penniless. I've never been in this situation in my life." The biggest problem is coping with the depression. "You try to think of ways of getting out of this *rut*, but you keep coming across barriers. It's like being hemmed in."

He feels degraded. The strain of it all has affected his relationship with Jane. "She has been very concerned and a great help, but there is tension between us. Things are not as they once were. She looks very miserable and white at times. I try to keep a stiff upper lip. I say 'Cheer up. Things are bound to get better'. She says she can't see how they will."

Richard and Sue Ambrose are in their late twenties and live in a council house in Rainham, in the Medway area of Kent. They have one son, Tarot, aged $2\frac{1}{2}$, and Lisa, aged 12, and Maria, aged 10, two daughters from Sue's previous marriage, as well as two Afghans, a hamster and a tortoise. Richard is a qualified electrician, though recently he worked in a factory. He has been unemployed since January 1982. Sue is a residential social worker looking after young people in care at a local community home. Her weekly take-home pay is £65, which includes overtime and sleeping-in allowances. (She is also a qualified teacher and youth worker.)

Richard: "I can't see me getting a job anywhere, so this was the next best thing, because she's got opportunities, you see, so why waste them? I'm a male version of my mother (she's a part-time cleaner in a dockyard). My mother was very houseproud. She was always cleaning: it was one of her fortes. In the same way, I'm inclined to get too involved with it. We have our little ups and downs in this. I'll say: 'get out of the way, I want to clean there'. I suppose a lot of people must think I'm a bit weird."

Sue: "Even close friends who've known us for years – especially the men – tend to have digs at me. 'You've got him well-trained, haven't you?' Or, 'What's Rich doing, baby-sitting *again*?' At first it was quite amusing but after a while it wears off".

Richard is garrulous and good-humoured in faded denims, his long hair tied back hippy-style. Does he mind having to ask Sue for money? "Well, she never seemed to mind when she asked *me* for it!"

Sue chips in: "It's not *my* money: it's *ours*. I mean, if it's there we spend it."

Like John Tanner, Richard has experienced the "lonely housewife" syndrome. "Half-past six I used to go to work. I'd see people on the bus. You just nodded to them. Occasionally you might pass words about the weather, but that was it. But they were still people. You absorbed something from them, whereas here, dogs apart, there's only Tarot, and trying to have an in-depth conversation with him is impossible!"

The couple cannot afford to go out more than once or twice a month. "The longer I stay in the harder I find it to go out", says Richard. "I get very used to the environment I've created, so I'm inclined to stay with it. It's as though this building has *stopped* and time out there can do what the hell it likes."

Sue has always hated housework whereas Richard, when he first took on the role on house-husband, was almost obsessed with tidiness. He still is, to a degree, and feels fiercely protective about his role. "It's *mine*. If she starts doing it, I think I'm out of a job."

Sue's illness with a kidney complaint last summer enabled them to reassess their roles, which became less rigid. Richard: "I can understand why a lot of marriages fail, 'cos they are two such *separate* people, poles apart, and the friction that causes. I don't consider myself totally *male*. I mean, the males that I would call *males* wouldn't know how to cook anything or even how to plug a vacuum cleaner in. They know how to take cars apart and about the price of drinks, but I was never that way inclined anyway."


Brian Harris

Sue and Richard Ambrose: reassessment of less rigid roles


Neville Pyne

John and Sue Tanner. John says: 'I'm a housewife now and I don't really like it. Deep down being in work matters.'

It might be assumed that the influence of The Worshipful Company of Cutlers of London would have waned once the knife makers went north and abandoned Fleet Street to the journalists; but the ancient livery companies are adaptable.

The modern Cutlers now take an interest in Surgical instrument making. This month they presented their annual award to Mr B. Sterry Ashby, the surgeon, for his work with a special endoscope, an illuminated tube which allows the operator to look along the common bile duct.

The story of endoscopes started in the last century when Dr Kussman was inspired by watching a sword swallower. He reasoned that if the man could be made to swallow a tube it would be possible to look at the inside of his stomach.

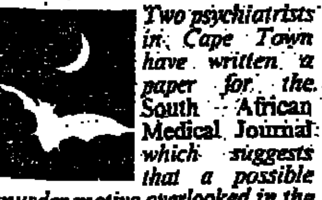
Later electric torchlight in a rigid tube exposed the inside of some organs – gullet, stomach, bronchial tubes and colon – to the surgeon's gaze. But the discovery in 1928 by John Logie Baird of a method of transmitting light along a flexible glass-fibre bundle allowed the production of a whole range of flexible fibre-optic endoscopes.

Mr Sterry Ashby has been working with the manufacturers on his particular endoscope, known as a choledocoscope, since 1974. If it had been invented 20 years earlier history might have been changed. Sir Anthony Eden's common bile duct was cut in a fruitless search for a stone. With this instrument direct vision of the inside of the duct could have been obtained and the means of retrieval of the stone, without causing near fatal damage, made possible.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The light of life

Dracula syndrome



Two psychiatrists in Cape Town have written a paper for the South African Medical Journal *which suggests that a possible murder motive overlooked in the past is a bizarre desire to drink blood.*

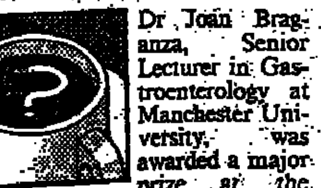
Dr R. E. Hemphill and Dr T. Zabow report in detail on three cases where white middle-class males, not apparently of Transylvanian origin, have had this craving, satisfied only by taking blood from animals when still alive, or after death from the abattoirs, or by sucking blood from the necks and shoulders of their lovers. Denied these sources, they have cut their arms and wrists to drink their own blood.

In a review of these and other cases, who have attended Cape Town University's psychiatric department, they report that although women are inclined to be auto-vampires, usually drinking their own blood, men are tempted to take other people's. They cite Haigh, the acid bath murderer, as a classic vampirist; it is known that he murdered nine people, cut their throats and drank a cupful of blood from each.

Vampirists are preoccupied with death and the dead. Even as small children they have an obsessive desire to visit cemeteries in a search for bodies and bones, and keep dead animals in their bedrooms.

The report suggests that this yearning may lead to repeated assaults or unexplained murder and should be considered in assessing the record of violent criminals who show evidence of self-mutilation.

Coffee or claret?



Dr Joan Braganza, Senior Lecturer in Gastroenterology at Manchester University, was awarded a major prize at the Doctor of the Year luncheon this week for her work on pancreatic disease. It is likely that the paper read by the judges is only an appetizer for more startling work.

Dr Braganza was reticent about her unpublished paper, but said that recent studies, while not pinpointing the cause of one of nature's most horrid and rapidly lethal cancers, carcinoma of the pancreas, do indicate the way in which future research should be directed.

Cancer of the pancreas is the fifth most common cause of death from cancer in Britain. The disease has a long, silent period which may exceed two years before it produces symptoms severe enough to make a patient see his doctor. By then it is too late; the average survival time is seven months and only 1 per cent live five years.

The incidence of the disease is increasing, and seems to bear relationship to to a sophisticated lifestyle. Various statistics published in America have suggested a relationship to coffee drinking, but direct evidence is lacking.

Beer beri



Beri-beri is a disease more often associated with wartime Changi Jail than the local, yet the Scottish Medical Journal *reports two near fatal cases in beer drinkers.*

Cardiac, or wet, beri-beri, is caused by thiamine, Vitamin B, deficiency. Perhaps because it is usually diagnosed in beer rather than whisky drinkers these are the first cases to be reported in Scotland. In alcoholics the disease is due to poor utilization secondary to liver disease, impaired absorption and increased requirement.

Both the Scots patients had signs and symptoms of severe cardiac failure, in conjunction with damage to the nervous system. Their hearts were enlarged, lungs waterlogged, legs swollen, muscles weak, their minds confused and their reflexes were almost absent.

They were treated with all the standard measures for heart failure, but it was only when the first patient became moribund that the doctors discovered that for 10 years he had been drinking eight to 10 pints of beer a day. His heart failure responded to thiamine within a fortnight and he regained his strength in six months.

The second patient admitted was luckier: his daily consumption of up to eight pints a day was immediately noted, his thiamine reserves estimated, found too be low, and treated. He made a quick recovery.

Anti-Chianti



According to Mr Geoffrey Gibbon, a London wine merchant, Californian wine sales more than doubled in Britain between 1980 and 1981. It seems suitable that it should be two Californians, Dr David Glaser and George Tarnowsky, who may have found a way, reported in *Medical News*, of avoiding the headache from which many people suffer after even small quantities of red wine.

The doctors suggest that the headache is due to a histamine-induced effect of red wine and can be avoided if the person takes a tablet of Tagamet (cimetidine) before they drink.

Toenail fever



An occupational hazard faced by chiropodists has been investigated by Dr Roland Davies of St Mary's Hospital, London, Therapy Weekly *reports.*

The hazard is toenail dust, blown into the air by trimming drills. It causes an allergic reaction similar to hay fever, with sore eyes and runny noses.

Evidence suggests that some of the dust containing spores of the fungi, trichophyton rubrum, responsible for athlete's foot, may be inhaled. Although 17 per cent of chiropodists have antibodies to this fungus in their blood, no case of lung disease has yet been diagnosed; in theory chiropodists could suffer from "farmer's lung", a pneumonitis caused by inhaling the spores from mouldy hay.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford
Medical Correspondent

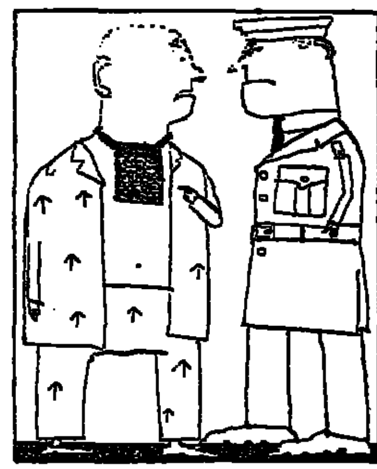
THE TIMES DIARY

Save it

Arthur Rosebud invents gadgets that "consume energy as if there were no tomorrow" the National Consumer Council says. His automatic dog-walker, anti-insomnia machine and super-heated swimming pool incur the displeasure of the Department of Energy, and he is persuaded to turn his garden into a testing ground for water wheels and windmills instead.

Arthur Rosebud's Revelation is a play commissioned by the Department of Energy to tour schools *putting across the message about* energy conservation and alternative sources. Meanwhile the Department has cut its budget for research in such matters by more than a fifth this year. "We have simply concentrated our resources", an energetic official explains.

BARRY FANTONI


'But what happens if someone mugs me and it gets nicked?'

Unsuitable

Surprise at the record price (£1,925,000) paid for the Henri II suit of armour in Sotheby's Hever sale yesterday is heightened by the fact that Henri was hardly a good advertisement for armour. He was *killed in a joust with Captain* Montgomery of his Scots Guards when a sliver of lance penetrated first his visor and then his brain.

● *I salute the careful husbandry at W. H. Smith's London Bridge branch which yesterday, when the 1983 Proms were announced, was still offering for sale the 1982 prospectus.*

Keeping mum

What have Rhodes Boyson and Laurie Pavitt, Conservative and Labour MPs for Brent North and South respectively, in common? Not much, but their names were both big *in the Co-op*, a discovery I owe to the research Jean Gaffin and David Thoms put into their centenary history of the Co-operative Women's Guild, *Caring and Sharing*, published this week. Pavitt's mother was national president in 1934, and he worked for the Co-op youth movement before becoming a Labour and Co-op MP. Less predictably, Mother Boyson was president of the Haslingden branch for a long period, and Rhodes himself was six years a director of the local Co-op. "I never knew that before", says Gaffin, "and he's my MP."

Astute students

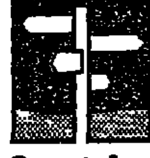
Alex Hambro, son of the chairman of Hambro's Bank; James Ogilvy, son of Angus Ogilvy and Princess Alexandra; and Rupert Goodman, son of an Eton housemaster, are, as *Cambridge* undergraduates, supplementing their government grants by running a glossy London giveaway magazine called *Freeway*. Now in its third issue, the magazine is crammed with expensive (£400-£700) ads for manor houses, luxury cars, decanters of cognac at £90, and the like. The business section has articles by a director of Hambro's, and by Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange. The young entrepreneurs claim the magazine goes free to 5,000 AB businessmen.

Oops-a-Daisy

Will the drama critic of *The Guardian* report to the head's study after school? His review of the ripping school yarn, *Daisy Pulls it Off*, is quoted in the West End: "...a wealth of accurate detail". The play, set in the 1920s, opens with a rousing rendition of "There'll always be an England". The song was written in 1939.

Word to the wise

I live with the inhibiting notion that *Times* readers know everything already. So here is a challenge. In connexion with next week's publication of the new *Chambers Dictionary* a competition has been organized with a copy as the prize. It is identify the word which means "the carousing of seamen of icebound ships". Tell me the answer quickly enough, and I'll give you the prize.



Driving is a dodgy business in south-west England, the World Conference on Transport Research heard in Hamburg last week. One out of every 16 crossroads in the region points in the wrong direction. The discovery was made by Department of Transport engineers testing a computer program to check for inconsistencies and errors in the national signpost network. In the eight south-western counties places were so often left off, posted for no good reason or mentioned only intermittently that an average of seven changes would be needed at every road intersection to achieve consistency.

PHS

Ken Livingstone's pantomime cow

While most of England and Wales has cast its vote, Londoners must wait until 1985 before passing judgment on the Labour-controlled GLC. Anne Sofer, a Social Democrat councillor, assesses its first two years

At a recent council meeting, in an attempt to enliven a dull debate about the GLC's "Peace Year" proposals, the front bench Labour spokesman wound up with a rousing speech. "I'm not a pacifist" (he said passionately) "I'm ready to fight. But when we go to war, it won't be against the Russians. Oh, no." (And he pointed dramatically at the Tories on the front bench opposite) "It will be against you fascists over there!"

This is the sort of thing the council loves. Since most of the business has been predigested in the committees and before that in the Labour group, council meetings are regarded less as policy-making occasions than as oratorical jousts. This particular clash of arms was greeted with cheers and jeers, shouts of admiration and roars of outrage. The speaker turned to accept the congratulation of his colleagues and the Conservatives rose to shake their fists. Another high point to remember in the bar afterwards.

The element of charade has always been strong at County Hall. Its proceedings are so strongly influenced by the consciousness of that other seat of government across the river that it often seems to be performing a dress rehearsal, or parody, of a production going on elsewhere. Most debates in the council chamber are on matters over which the GLC has no control at all: defence policy, Northern Ireland, monetarism, the Falklands...

But in the two long years of the present administration the charade *has been transformed from a genteel* parlour game to a full-blown, commercial West End pantomime, costing £2m this year on promotion and advertising alone. To some the Labour leadership is a fairy godmother, to others the demon king. To me it is Daisy the pantomime cow, a creature pretending to be what it is not, poking its face into things which are not its concern, and thereby successfully stealing the show from the straight actors who are trying to hold the plot together.

But behind the spotlights and the tinsel is the uncomfortable truth that the GLC has never found its proper purpose since it was set up by a Conservative government in 1964 as part of a two-tier structure in which it was to be the "strategic" authority over the London boroughs. Nobody has ever known what strategic meant. Apart from public transport – and even here it is boxed in on all sides – the GLC's statutory functions have all but disappeared.

But the council also has discretionary powers, and it is these that it is now exercising to try and get a toehold in practically every area of London life: health, training, the police, community arts, trade union activity, child care, energy policy – the new committees and panels and working parties proliferate. And each has its own budget and staff.

The cornucopia of grants, combined with the high profile of the present administration, has created an atmosphere at County Hall that is a cross between a students' union and a campaign headquarters. Labour leaders talk euphorically about having "opened up the corridors of power to the community". The crowds, thronging those pompous, oak-panelled, marble-columned halls are indeed younger, more multi-racial and more self-assertive than ever before.

But whether the majority of these *visitors are representative of the* "community" in a political sense is more open to doubt. A selection of those groups meeting in County Hall over a couple of weekends this spring gives the flavour: Women's Media Action Group, AEUW Broad Left, Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament, Black Trade Unionist Solidarity Movement, Labour Steering Committee against the Witch Hunt....

With the new political style comes a new language – studiously non-sexist and based on a political ideology that comes jumping out at the most unexpected moments. A recent proposal to fund a cooperatively run laundrette was justified on the ground that it represented the "socialization of washing as a form of domestic production".

It helps to know the language if you want a grant. The GLC's open-handedness has provoked a deluge *of applications*, and an *extra £1.25m* is being spent this year simply on staff to process them. Your chances of getting some money are enhanced if you use words like "campaign" or "protest" or "mobilizing the community". "Struggle" may hit the jackpot. And although grants are not supposed to be given to groups promoting a political party, a generous use of the word "socialist" is recommended – and permitted on the grounds *that the Labour Party is* not a true socialist party!

"I take pictures of strikes, demos, pickets, etc" hopefully wrote a photographer applying for a grant from the Arts and Recreation Committee. (She got it). Centres for the unemployed have been told they will not get grants unless they turn their attention from providing advice and recreation to "campaigning". *The Police Committee* agreed last week to fund three organizers to "coordinate popular expression of views" against the Police Bill. Indeed hostility against the police leads to the strongest language of all. *If the struggle against them led to the* manufacture of petrol bombs, declared one enthusiast at a GLC-sponsored conference, "then so be it". The chairman of the GLC Police Committee, sitting on the platform, joined the applause.

Every document we receive now has to include a paragraph describing what the implications are for women. For the officers who have responsibilities for drafting papers on bus lanes, waste stations, Thames piers and listed buildings this is clearly a challenging intellectual exercise. The regular report on canal walks always concludes with the reassuring assertion that the proposals *have resulted from* consultations with "multi racial/sexual community groups". Sometimes a gallant effort boomerangs. The comment in a proposed grant to a rugby club that "Rugby is of course primarily a male sport, but women are always a welcome addition to the rugby scene . . ." was not well received by the committee.

As part of the fight against male attitudes to the "oppressed gender class", *sexual harassment* has now been made a disciplinary offence under the GLC staff code. Defined as (*inter alia*) "unreciprocated leering", it is taken very seriously. When I attempted some feeble witticism against the idea I was reproached for my unsisterly attitude: "Surely, Anne, as a woman you've suffered . . . ." I found this unanswerable, on several counts.

The Tories fulminate against Marxism and make sinister comparisons with Eastern Europe, the one-party state, etc. One can see their political point, but as far as the *approach and the style* go they are looking in completely the wrong direction. There are far more parallels with the American mayoral system, whereby one person, backed by a party machine, wins control of a city, and can then use its resources for his or her own propaganda and patronage for the next four years.

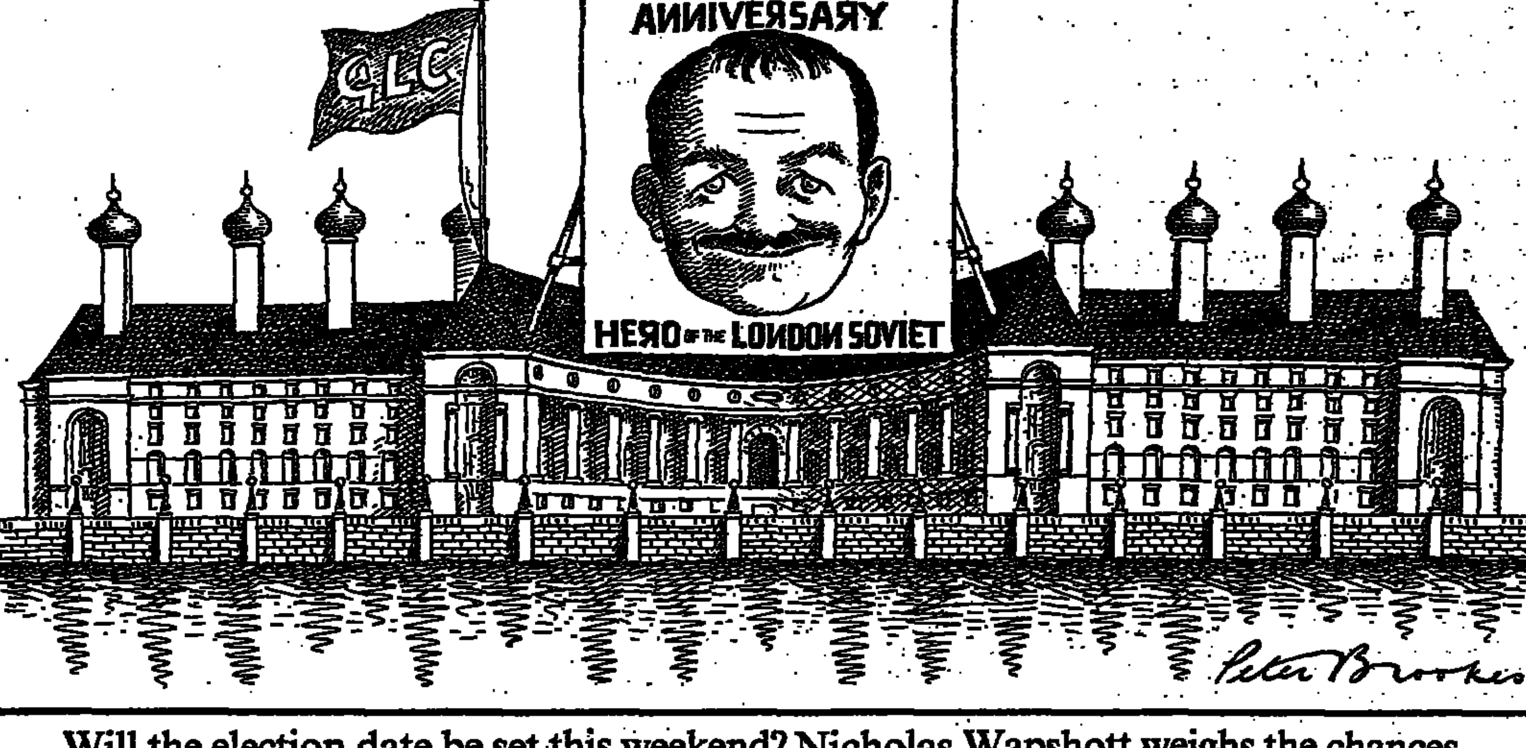
That Ken Livingstone himself sees it this way is clear. Before the May 1981 Labour victory he was writing in *London Labour Briefing*, the self-styled "organ of communication for the left of the Labour Party in London", that the aim of winning would be to "use the council *machinery* as *part of* a political campaign both against the government and in defence of socialist policies". He has always insisted on the need to appoint officers "commited to our policies". *London Labour Briefing ran* the banner headline after the election, London Is Ours, and since then politicians and media alike have conspired to give the impression that Ken Livingstone is "running London", is "London's political boss", "Chief" and "Supremo".

It is of course a false impression. Most of the services that affect the daily life of London's citizens – housing, policing, education and *training, social services, health, road* sweeping and rubbish collection, libraries – are run by other authorities, and not by the GLC at all. Maybe the mayoral structure is a more appropriate one for big city government than our present three-tier muddle, but it is not what we have got.

So what will happen to the GLC? However wide the disagreements about what to do with it (and the argument seems to rage within all the political parties as well as between them) onething is obvious: it should either be given clearer statutory functions or abolished. Its present powerlessness makes it an expensive luxury for London.

It seems however to have survived the threat of immediate government action. The Tory Group at County Hall, under a new leader, are talking openly already about the campaign to win in 1985.

The author is SDP councillor for Camden/St Pancras North.



David Watt

Heading for a fall at the summit?

Having mercifully been preoccupied with other subjects, I must be the only commentator in the land who has not written in the last three weeks about the date of the election. I do not propose to start now. I have not changed the view I expressed here several months ago that Mrs Thatcher would be wise to go in June but, being the person she is, she may still decide to soldier on. Meanwhile the subject has become a howling bore and the Prime Minister has made a mistake in allowing some of the boredom to rub off on herself.

There is however one small sidestream in this torrent of speculation that remains genuinely intriguing, and that concerns the Williamsburg Summit meeting. As all the world now knows, this international circus runs in Virginia from May 28 to 30 and it is certain that Mrs Thatcher has been advised that she will receive a big electoral boost from being seen striding (or as hostile commentators prefer to put it "strutting") the world stage there on equal terms with Ronald, François, Helmut and the others. The conventional wisdom appears to have absorbed this notion without the slightest difficulty and yet the underlying assumptions seem well worth examining.

The first is that *being "Prime Ministerial" puts you decisively ahead of your main opponents in an election beauty contest.* The idea is that Michael Foot and David Steel, who have never been to a summit (though Roy Jenkins, as President of the European Commission, has) will be exposed as mere politicians – and untried politicians at that – whose electoral twittering is a temporary distraction from the work of real statesmen like the Prime Minister. All Mrs Thatcher asks is to be allowed to get back to the inspiring work of saving the world.

It is a pretty conceit, but life, unfortunately, is not as simple as that. Once the election begins, experience shows that the Prime Ministerial patina is lost almost immediately in the rough and tumble of day-to-day campaigning – so much so indeed that far from a campaign appearing to the great British public to be a sordid interlude in the midst of a world crisis, the world crisis will probably be seen in these islands as a tiresome irrelevance to what is going on at the hustings. It already is, for that matter.

What about the second assumption, though – *it is a great thing to be seen at the international top table.* This, of course, is a notion that no British politician bothered about until 25 years ago. Disraeli, Lloyd George, Churchill or even Attlee knew exactly where they would be sitting. It was only with Macmillan, Home and Wilson that the doubt about our international status began to creep in and a national obsession on the subject took over. Now that it has done so, there is no doubt that *not* being at the summit would involve severe loss of face to Mrs Thatcher as well as hurt national pride, and to this extent the conventional wisdom is right.

The Prime Minister has got to go to Williamsburg. But the positive additional bonus that will accrue *from being seen there will depend* less on the existence of the summit club and Mrs Thatcher's membership of it than on what people think of the other members. At present the leaders of the West look a pretty *lacklustre bunch. It is one thing to* hobnob with Stalin and Roosevelt (let us forget about Chiang Kai-shek for a moment or even Eisenhower, de Gaulle and Khrushchev). It is quite another to be lined up for a group photograph alongside Herr Kohl and Mr Nakasone.

This brings us to the third and most important assumption that people are making about the public relations of the summit: *what matters is that the meeting should take place, not what happens at it.* This, which one might call the "Field of Cloth of Gold" syndrome, proceeds from the idea that all summits are primarily *international* theatre. Nothing, is is said, can be seriously achieved between the principals in two days of polite, desultory chat. If there is agreement at all it will have been reached at official level beforehand and will require only to be given a histrionic stamp of approval at the summit meeting itself.

There is some truth in this. The western economic summits have had a symbolic value since their inception in 1975, signifying the determination of western governments to maintain and control a stable and reasonably open international economic system in spite of the recession and in spite of all shocks. Where they have succeeded in doing something dramatic as, for instance, in the case of the Bonn Summit in 1978 (which sealed the bargain whereby President Carter undertook to decontrol the American oil market in return for German reflation) most of the spadework has usually been done already. But there is more to it than that.

For one thing the reality of the summit dialogue – though less than it could be if the meetings were differently arranged – is still valuable. Attitudes and sometimes even decisions can be changed. But that is another, long story. What *matters in the context of public* politics is that there is a difference between good and bad theatre, between tragedy, comedy, farce, and Grand Guignol. And it is by no means clear that all are equally popular with the groundlings. The last summit, at Versailles, for example, was a tragi-comedy in which President Reagan and President Mitterrand talked with great animation and, it turned out subsequently, with total lack of communication. The immediate effect was not particularly exciting. The long-term reaction was deplorable.

At Williamsburg there are not the *makings of a great flop – but there* is no premonition of a great hit either. No concrete agreement is yet in sight on a grand strategy for the international monetary system; there is not even much prospect of a *replenishment of IDA – the World* Bank's soft loan fund. On trade in general we shall at best get some worthy declarations of allegiance to an open system (reinforced with a few dark forebodings of a Third World financial crisis unless everyone lends a helping hand) and on East-West trade a sour agreement to disagree. There will be a lot of whoopeeing about world recovery now being in full swing, but who, after so many false dawns, is really ready to believe it?

There are not many votes in all this for Mrs Thatcher. In fact she could even come away from the gathering a net loser if, as is quite *possible, she gets cast as pig-in-the-*middle between the Germans and the Americans in the ferocious argument about East-West trade and East-West relations in general. An hour upon the world stage is a heady *experience but, without specific* achievement, it is apt, particularly at election time, to seem more like "a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing".

Will the election date be set this weekend? Nicholas Wapshott weighs the chances

Judging omens and juggling options

Every stone has been turned, every rune inspected, every individual tea leaf held up to the light for a clue to the date of the general election. This weekend, speculation comes to a climax as the Prime Minister officially considers the matter for the first time. All evidence, however far-fetched, is taken seriously. When it became known that Roy Jenkins was this weekend due to make a rare appearance in Glasgow, Hillhead, cynics deduced that an election *must* be a certainty.

Another entrail being given particularly careful perusal by students of the constitution at the moment is the timing of the Cardiff North-west by-election. By the rule laid down by the late Speaker, Selwyn Lloyd, in 1973, the writ must be issued within three months of the vacancy arising, which is next Tuesday.

Two weeks ago, John Biffen handed the matter over to the Speaker, who, all things being equal, should announce on Tuesday that *the by-election shall be held on June* 9. What chance, then, of the Prime Minister announcing an election on June 16 or 23, sweeping up the by-election in her wake? Would anyone complain? Would the pair of premier parliamentarians, Michael Foot and Enoch Powell, cry "Gerrymander!"? It would be only a small embarrassment, but in general elections, things can get out of proportion very easily.

One way of avoiding such a wrangle would be to announce a general election before the Speaker announces the by-election.

By Monday or Tuesday next, the Prime Minister will in any case be well-equipped to make up her mind. Despite her protestations that she has been thinking about everything except the date of the election, by Sunday night she can no longer give *that* excuse. She will leave Downing Street tonight, heading for Chequers and perhaps the most significant weekend of her political life. By her own admission, a second term is essential for her transformation of Britain. So far she has just been building the foundations.

Today the full local election results will provide the biggest test yet of public opinion on which she can base her decision. Tomorrow, in Central Office in Smith Square, the results will be fed into a sparkling new £750,000 computer, an ICL ME29, donated anonymously by an admirer. It will take the figures and apply them to the new parliamentary boundaries, giving an accurate projection of how the country would vote in a general election. The verdict will be rushed to Chequers for her perusal.

Meanwhile, this lunchtime, at the education centre of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union in Woodstock College, near Kingston-upon-Thames, there will be a grand council of war of the labour movement. Labour's Shadow Cabinet, national executive and most trade union leaders, under the umbrella of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory – a coalition of all major trade unions except the National Union of Mineworkers – will sit down for two days of election planning.

The Woodstock pow-wow was originally convened after the Labour debacle at Bermondsey, when trade unions panicked at the prospect of another five years of Norman Tebbit, who has promised to reduce *their powers drastically* if granted a second term. Though originally convened by Moss Evans, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to bolster Michael Foot's leadership it was thought after *Bermondsey that any meeting* which brought the leaders of the Labour movement together might result in eliciting the infamous "sick note" which would allow Mr Foot to stand down in favour of Denis Healey.

The Labour victory at Darlington and the arrival of general election fever has changed all that. Now, instead of talking about the leadership and policy differences, the union leaders are eager to discuss the nuts and bolts of the campaign, in particular, drafting their members into the key marginals and, above all, passing around the hat.

Only if Mrs Thatcher declares an election today will they, momentarily, consider doing what the Australian Labour Party did, switching leaders at the beginning of an election campaign, which is known as the "Bob Hawke option". Apart from those in the Shadow Cabinet corridor in the Commons, few *daydream about this possibility. The* time to ditch Mr Foot has passed.

The wheeler-dealers of Woodstock will also be receiving the latest intelligence about the local election results, provided by David Cowling, Labour's psephological one-man band. It is likely to provide a chastening douche for the Labour Party officials, who are inexplicably optimistic about the party's chances of an overall majority. As our Labour Editor reports today, the unions are more realistic and see themselves taking part in a rescue job. Either way, come the end of the planning on Saturday, the brothers will be presenting themselves as a united, happy band, if a little light in their wallets.

On Sunday morning, while Michael Foot takes his dog, Dizzy, for his constitutional around Hampstead Heath, the quiet of Chequers will be disturbed by the arrival of the BBC *World This Weekend* team, come to ask a few akward questions. Try as Gordon Clough may, he is unlikely to yank the sword from the stone. When the recording is run at lunchtime, the message will still be wait-and-see. The PM has let it be known that she will announce no news on Saturday or Sunday.

After lunch at Chequers, however, while Michael Foot addresses Clive Jenkins's union at Bournemouth, she will sit down with her three wise men: Geoffrey Howe, in charge of the manifesto, Cecil Parkinson, head of the party machine, and Willie Whitelaw, her trusted deputy. Then, according to the mythology, she will consider the date of the election for the first time. From then on, all four must keep poker faces lest the secret get out.

The Conservatives are ready to go. Their newspaper ads are running, their poster sites are booked, their coffers are overflowing. The manifesto is all but complete. Only the change in the home rating system is undecided.

An announcement one way or another about the election is therefore likely from Downing Street on Monday or Tuesday. On Tuesdays, by chance, the *Prime Minister has her weekly meeting* with the Queen, so what better time to ask for a dissolution?

Which brings us to the date. If she calls it all off, circle some time in October. However, if she announces one on Monday or Tuesday, it depends how long she wants the campaign to run. With such a clear lead in the opinion polls, it would be rash to allow it to last any longer than the bare minimum, which would make it June 9. To fix the date a week or two later would be a confident decision, defying the precedent of June 1970, when the drip-drip-drip of an unappealing Opposition leader plugging away on one theme got through to the electorate in the last few days.

The Labour Party, so far waging a surrogate campaign against the Tories through CND, will be bringing out its secret weapon: the fear of unemployment. A long campaign could see the Tory lead slip away as the Labour movement spoke, for once, with one voice.

So, what of June 9? There would then be a problem about Mrs Thatcher attending two important summits, at Williamsburg, from May 28 to 30, and at Stuttgart, on June 6 and 7. As both would fall in an election campaign, she would be reminded of an awkward precedent, set in 1945 by Winston Churchill who took Attlee with him to Potsdam, in his words: "in case anyone says 'Why are you committing yourself to something for which you have no authority and when in the ballot box there may be something which strips you of your authority?'" Nevertheless, she has told President Reagan she *will* attend Williamsburg, which takes place over the spring bank holiday weekend – not a heavy electioneering period.

And the week of June 9 includes the state visit of the President of Sri Lanka. Both Margaret Thatcher and Michael Foot will be invited to the state banquet on Tuesday, June 7, and the Palace has let it be known that no excuses will be accepted, even for a general election. And so the waiting goes on.

Philip Howard

A grenadier on a hill-top high

Some talk of Exeter Cathedral, and some of the west front of Wells. Beverley for misericords, Southwell Minster for carved leaves with little animals hiding in them, Salisbury for its spire. Earth has not anything *to show more fair than the crown of* Ely riding over the Fens like a great sailing-ship – except, perhaps, Durham towering on its hill.

But of all our great buildings, there's none that can compare, and in the childish game of top ten cathedrals comes number one with such certitude, as Lincoln. One would not want to be patronizing to William Cobbett, because the quarrelsome old fellow might knock one down, but he hit the nail on the head in *Rural Rides* when he observed that, "Lincoln Cathedral is, I believe, *the finest building in the whole world.*" It still is, 153 Aprils later. Here are some further observations on the matter, arranged philosophically:

1. The Lincoln Imp, turned to stone for misbehaving in the Angel Choir, is a sad disappointment, discernible with difficulty, and not a patch on his cousin on the West Front.

1.1 They keep their cathedral and Minster Yard and environs so beautifully at Lincoln by making it awkward for tourists to get in without paying at least 50p. Most of us gladly gave more. St Paul's please copy.

1.2 This may be a symptom of northern pride compared with the slovenliness of the south. For the Earl of Ancaster's memorial service, everybody was turned out for a grand county ceremony, black stockings for the women, black bowlers for the men, everything decent and in order to do honour to the man and the county.

1.3. The pre-eminence of Lincoln is partly a matter of position. You can see it from 30 miles away across the plain illuminated at night. Nat Hawthorne remarked that being almost the only hill in Lincolnshire, the inhabitants seem disposed to make the most of it.

1.31. By an optical illusion and dead ground, as you approach by the *road from Nottingham you can see* the great rose window above the Bishop's Eye from miles away through the trees and ruins of the Bishop's palace.

1.4. The class distinction between the Above Boys and the Below Boys noted by Elia in one of his *Last Essays*, survives: up the hill quiet and tasteful tourist shops, down the hill hamburgers and hurly burly crowd scenes.

2. Did you know that the monumental statue of Tennyson by George Frederic Watts, showing the Laureate looking down grumpily at a tiny flower in his hand, is known locally as "The Disgruntled Cabby"?

2.1. There is a good motto on the former girls' school, now converted to the Art School: "Disce aut discede." Impractical these days, however.

3. Are we quite sure that the point about Lincoln Green was the bright green colour and not the weave? I detect some uncertainty in the sources. Is it possible that Robin Hood and his Merry Men wore shocking pink?

3.1. What is a Wong? And if you answer, "Two Wongs don't make a White", kindly leave the page. There is a street by the cathedral called Lowes Wong. I'll tell you what a Wong is: it's a piece of unenclosed meadowland, etymology Old English and Old Danish, for we are in the Danelaw up here, my masters.

4. "There is a proverb, part of which is this,
They say that Lincoln was, and London is."

John Taylor, "The Water Poet": wrong again, Taylor.

4.1. The cathedral is, I believe, *the finest building in the whole world.*

هكذا من الاصل

TIMES PAST
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FRIENDS TALKING

Of all the threats to the Atlantic Alliance at this time the most insidious is the creeping anti-Americanism that is evident in Britain and elsewhere in western Europe. There are a number of reasons for this. One of the most significant is the change of generations. Nobody who has come to maturity within the past quarter of a century can have a personal memory of the Second World War or of the Soviet expansion throughout eastern Europe. Younger generations do not therefore have the same recollection of shared danger. Nor do they have the same recollection of a common sense of purpose that came from the rebuilding of western Europe and the establishment of the international trading and monetary systems in the early postwar years.

The power of the United States, which was earlier seen as the prime safeguard for freedom, is now often regarded more as an economic challenge or a social irritant. In Britain we passed through a phase, which we ought now to be able to put behind us, of wanting to show that we were truly European by demonstrating that we were anti-American. De Gaulle's vision of Britain as America's Trojan horse lived after him, a ghost that sometimes seemed to frighten Britain as much as it did other European countries.

But a special reason for the growth of anti-Americanism has been the decline in the quality of the transatlantic dialogue. Not since John Kennedy has there been an American leader who could communicate effectively with the general public on this side of the Atlantic. Other Presidents have had a deeper understanding of Europe without being able to make that evident to the people of Europe. Sometimes that has been because they failed to express themselves in a way that could be appreciated in Europe. Often it has been because their words have come to European ears in abbreviated and distorted form. They have not been understood in Europe because they have *not* spoken directly to Europe.

It would therefore be sufficient reason to welcome the Lord Mountbatten Memorial Lecture delivered in Cambridge yesterday evening by Mr Edwin Meese, the Counsellor to President Reagan, that a person of his authority and influence should have taken the time and trouble to speak directly to a British audience. It is still better that he did so in a manner that ought to further the dialogue.

Effective dialogue does not depend upon total agreement. Not everything that Mr Meese said last night will, or should, have commanded the assent of his audience. His advocacy of President Reagan's campaign to preserve democracy may have struck British ears as superficial in its appreciation of the subtlety of international affairs. A major power like the United States cannot conduct its foreign policy simply according to whether it approves of the internal political systems of other countries. If it gives the impression that it will do so, it is liable to find itself accused of double standards – as President Carter found over his human rights policy.

But this is not an issue of great importance in European-American relations. The two questions that matter above all for transatlantic relations at the present time are the proposed deployment of intermediate range nuclear missiles in western Europe and the threat of growing trade protectionism. On both these subjects Mr Meese spoke *with understanding. It was not to* be expected that he would make any fresh commitment on trade at this moment, just before the Williamsburg summit meeting at the end of the month. But he gave every indication of being fully alive to the nature and extent of the danger.

On the missiles, he spoke with the constructive firmness that is required. It is in the western interest to secure a balance of strength at the lowest level of arms that can be negotiated. To sacrifice balance for the sake of an agreement with the Soviet Union would be folly. But if the United States is to command the confidence of European opinion it also needs to provide assurance that it will negotiate positively. In this respect, as in the broader theme of his speech, Mr Meese showed an understanding of European concerns. But if this understanding is to be politically effective, Mr Meese's visit must be part of a pattern in developing the dialogue across the Atlantic.

THE WAGES OF OPPORTUNISM

"In my opinion, the mistakes we made are really grave. There was espionage, deceit, treachery – all of those were there. These are serious aberrations and, in my opinion, they deserve the most severe punitive actions that the Islamic Republic may decide to mete out."

With these words, spoken on Iranian television last Saturday Mr Nureddin Kianuri pronounced, in all probability, his own death warrant as well as that of the Tudeh party of which he has been a leading member throughout its forty-two-year existence and secretary-general since 1978. Sure enough on Wednesday the prosecutor general announced the dissolution of the "pro-Soviet and treacherous Tudeh", ordering all its members and supporters to report to his office within a week. A few hours later, in an ostensibly separate but no doubt connected development, the foreign ministry ordered eighteen Soviet diplomats to leave the country.

Mr Kianuri's interview/interrogation ended with a "final message" to the young members of his party: "In my opinion the thing they should refrain from and avoid as much as possible is *that no Leftist trend should* infiltrate Iran as it means affiliation to foreigners, to aliens." It is hard to imagine a more abject denial of everything this veteran communist leader's career had stood for, devoted as it was to internationalism and to the faithful application in Iran of a political line devised in Moscow, often in total disregard of Iranian political conditions, not to mention Iranian national interests. The methods used to wring from him this "confession" do not bear too much thinking about.

"Serve him right", one is tempted to say, for at least two reasons. First, he represented the movement and the power which first perfected this odious technique, in the Moscow show trials of the 1930s. Secondly, he and his party – on Moscow's instructions no doubt – had insisted on continuing to support the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini in spite of its open contempt for them and their ideas and in spite of the violent repression which it used against all other left-wing parties.

Why did it do so? The most obvious answer is that the Tudeh party hoped thereby to escape *such repression itself, and to* be in a position to expand its membership and influence with a view to seizing power in a later phase of the revolution. There must have been an element of that. Mr Kianuri and his colleagues certainly underestimated the danger they were in. Otherwise they would not have been so easily arrested in their homes, in the small hours of the morning.

At the same time they were good enough historians to be well aware of the chances, and the risks, of failure. In April, 1980 Mr Kianuri was asked, by a *Times* correspondent, whether he was not worried by the example of what had happened to the Iraqi Communist Party, which had given the same kind of uncritical support to the Baath regime in Iraq that he was now giving to Ayatollah Khomeini, and which had none the less become in its turn the victim of Baathist repression. "We are well aware," he replied, "that when we collaborate with bourgeois nationalists they do not share our ideas, and that they may one day cross over into the reactionary camp. But so long as they are confronting imperialism it is our duty to support them."

Which being translated is: "we will support even anti-communist regimes so long as *their foreign policies happen to* serve the interest of the Soviet Union, even though we know that by so doing we offer ourselves as defenceless victims for imprisonment, torture and execution." Such an extraordinary spirit of self-sacrifice would be admirable if it were not devoted to so unworthy a cause.

MINISTERS DO NOT MAGNATES MAKE

It is more than 35 years since Mr Herbert Morrison and his Socialisation of Industries Cabinet Committee reshaped one chunk of British industry after another in the image of his first and favourite creation, the London Passenger Transport Board. In the early 1980s, nobody is now satisfied with the condition of *his progeny, or many of the other* nationalised industries as this week has shown.

At the level of high politics, the Prime Minister made it clear that a second Thatcher administration would march on another privatisation crusade. "It's absolutely ridiculous", she told our Political Editor, "that so many industrial and commercial decisions should come up to a Cabinet and a Prime Minister". From the top plateau of bureaucracy, Sir Peter Carey, retiring Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, said, exhibiting a civil servant's love of understatement, the relationship between Government and state corporations was "less than perfect" due to an "underlying ambivalence on the part of governments".

On the left politicians also tend to be snide about the Morrisonian model. It lacked any concept of worker participation, let alone worker control: it was applied *only to* big, war-worn industries or those wrestling with long-term structural difficulties. According to this school of political economy nationalisation has never been given a chance in Britain, unlike France or Italy.

The most damaging piece of recent evidence that all is not well in the public sector has come in a little noticed memorandum prepared for the all-party Commons Public Accounts Committee by Mr Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, and used to good effect in examining two permanent secretaries. Mr Downey's paper, which illustrated beyond question the feebleness of Whitehall's grip on important aspects of nationalised industry finance, was based on case studies of relations between the Department of Transport and the British Railways Board, the Department of Energy and the National Coal Board, and the Department of Industry and British Telecom.

The paper showed just how inadequate are the sinews of financial control, in both the public corporations and the Whitehall divisions charged with watching them. Admittedly, Whitehall as a whole has to monitor 19 state industries with a combined turnover in 1981-82 of some £38 billion and a labour force of about 1.5m; but Morrison created a Leviathan which, by its very size, is now clearly uncontrollable.

There is no panacea; but some suggestions for reform have more merit than others. What would not help, despite the views of some nationalised industry chairmen, is to make the Treasury *the* ministry of nationalised industries and the sponsoring department for all of them. The task is too big for one institution and the Treasury must maintain its role as umpire somewhat *above the fray and* ultimate controller of the purse-strings. To argue, as the Social Democrats tend to, that much of the problem would be solved if the boundaries of the mixed economy were frozen is a surrender to intellectual bankruptcy. Stability can be an asset but a status quo which perpetuated *deficiencies* unearthed by Mr Downey is not something to cherish.

Sir Peter Carey's suggestion that the Government should pay top rates to attract top people into chairmanships and then leave them to get on with it has genuine merit, and has certainly been followed in the case of Mr Ian MacGregor. Though if logic has a part, that would imply leaving these managerial and commercial firebrands to borrow as much as they felt necessary which is not a course calculated to appeal to Mrs Thatcher. In 1980 the public sector was ordered to trim its external financial requirements by £3bn. So far, £1bn has been shed.

Sir Peter's view raises the question of why is it necessary to have state industries at all if a hands-off policy is to be pursued? Does the public interest any longer require that the commanding heights have to be publicly owned? That is a question which Mrs Thatcher has not fully tackled in her first administration, only pursing privatisation piecemeal where the condition of the industry and the market *made it possible.* There is more to be done to relieve Ministers and their departments of commercial and industrial decisions for which they are not fitted. Before the second privatisation crusade sets out from Whitehall the Prime Minister and her Cabinet should consider precisely what it is they are fighting for, and how to get there.

Rate reform a vital need

From Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Q.C., MP for Hexham (Conservative)

Sir, The announcement that the Conservative election manifesto will contain positive proposals for reforming the rating system will be widely welcomed. The implicit recognition that abolition is not feasible has opened the way to practical measures that can and should be implemented at an early date.

I believe this priority should be given to the following:

1. A transfer of the cost of teachers' salaries and an increased proportion of the police and fire services over to the Exchequer, accompanied by
2. A consequent 25 per cent derating of industry and commerce and the abolition of rates on manufacturing plant and machinery.
3. Domestic rate relief should be extended to small businesses.
4. Payment of rates by instalments should be allowed in all cases.
5. Rating of empty property, introduced in the boom conditions of the early 1970s, should be abolished.
6. Crown property and the property of statutory undertakings, such as reservoirs, should be rated by the same procedure as other property.
7. Rebates should be allowed for domestic water consumers on the same basis as for domestic rates.
8. A revaluation of all property should be set in hand on the basis of capital values and revaluation should take place at least every five years.

Above all we must find a more satisfactory way of altering the financial assistance given by central to local government. The current Byzantine methods of calculating annual rate-support grants are *creating* confusion and uncertainty everywhere. Consideration should be given to financing local government on a basis similar to that of universities, who receive a five-year block grant.

Our universities are often referred to as models of independence and for this reason greatly envied by other countries. There is no reason why this should not be equally valid for our local councils.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY RIPPON,
House of Commons.
May 5.

Private schools plans

From the Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, Lancaster

Sir, Mr Neil Kinnock (April 27) appears to be offering private schools the same future – voluntary maintained status within a comprehensive educational system – as was *so widely rejected by the direct-grant* schools during the last Labour Government. Has he any new inducements, apart from more direct attempts to prevent fee-charging, to encourage local authorities to take on the maintenance and resourcing of the schools, or governors to accept the restrictions of the maintained sector?

Since many of the schools will have boarding facilities it might be helpful to explore a new category of voluntary school, neither aided nor controlled, with central rather than local authority maintenance, and with greater independence incorporated in the articles of government and guaranteed by legislation. Some existing voluntary schools might *also choose to move to such a status.*

Yours faithfully,
A. M. JOYCE, Headmaster,
The Royal Grammar School,
Lancaster.
April 29.

In police custody

From Mr Ole Hansen and Ms Geraldine Van Bueren

Sir, It is important to correct the error contained in your editorial, dated May 3. Applications by the police to extend an individual's detention without charge beyond 36 hours would be in closed, not in open courts.

Unnoticed, part IV of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill defines in clause 35(2) a magistrates' court as "a court consisting of two or more justices of the peace sitting otherwise than in open court".

Such a radical departure from modern English legal principles is far wider than is necessary for the protection of a suspect's reputation. All that is required is the imposition of reporting restrictions similar to those applying to committal proceedings and which can be lifted at the detainee's request.

Yours faithfully,
OLE HANSEN,
GERALDINE VAN BUEREN,
The Legal Action Group,
28A Highgate Road, NW5.
May 4.

Cuckold in the nest

From his Honour Paul Layton

Sir, Other species of birds take stricter views of marital morality (letter, April 11) – or did 50 years ago.

May I remind you of a report "from Our Own Correspondent in Turkey", which appeared in *The Times* of April 19, 1932? It was of a pair of storks who returned one day to the nest and were seen in "fierce altercation", as a result of which the male flew away and collected the rest of the storks from the village.

They, having examined the nest, flew in circles above it, apparently in conclave. After half an hour the male and two others "returned to the nest and solemnly killed the female".

The male then took a chick from the nest and gently deposited it on the ground. It was a turkey chick. Investigation revealed that a small boy had substituted a turkey's egg for one of the stork's eggs in the nest.

Yours etc,
PAUL LAYTON,
70A Leopold Road, SW19.

Uncompromising view of Prague talks

From Dr Alex Comfort

Sir, As an old CND member, and one of the Committee for 100, now *in partibus infidelium*, I find the uproar over the World Peace Council very familiar. Of course the two Powers which endanger Europe have their sights on CND – it threatens them because it represents the interests of an independent European opinion. The Russians attempt to take it over, the Americans and their pro-consuls in Western governments attempt to smear it as communist. The unmanaged expression of public protest frightens both of them out of their wits.

As I recall matters, it was the World Peace Council "front" which coined the slogan "Ban the bomb". When we took that slogan and ran with it, they mistook us for supporters. I can still recall their faces when we marched to the Soviet as well as the American Embassy.

Mr Heseltine, I suspect, would be unable to comprehend a genuinely popular movement even if he wished to do so. Nobody can "lead" or divert this one – if anyone tries, the following melts away. Observing the Prague conference will not compromise our virginity: whatever the conference passes by way of party-line resolutions, we are more likely to infiltrate them (and strengthen a genuinely pro-European and popular peace movement about which Moscow is profoundly uncomfortable) than they us.

We have had one sound piece of advice from the Government – we should indeed "raise our eyes to the Berlin Wall". If we do, we shall lower them again with the recognition that this is the moment to trade European neutrality for European reunification.

CND may have arisen from the *anxiety of reasonable citizens over* nuclear war, but European neutrality is its diplomatic corollary – not the disarmament of a Britain which continues to lead with its chin by remaining uneasily allied to either of the two Caesars.

CND is more than a protest against nuclear war – it is a rejection of Great Power paranoia, and of Western governments which subordinate national interest to the policies of the USA and the USSR. Given that realization, I do not think that the public will be readily manipulated by fellow-travellers of either complexion.

I am, Sir,
ALEX COMFORT,
683 Oak Grove Drive,
Santa Barbara,
California,
USA.
April 30.

From Mr Eric Jacobs

Sir, Nicolas Walter (April 30) quotes my old *Guardian* colleague, Victor Zorza, as writing, of the demonstration that took place in Moscow's Red Square during the World Peace Council meeting of July, 1962, that it was "the most direct challenge to official Soviet policies and ideas to have been presented to the Soviet man in the street since freedom of speech died under Stalin". But all that shows is how very little challenge of any kind there can have been before that demonstration, not how successful that demonstration itself was.

I was in Red Square, for *The Guardian*, and this is what happened. A small minority of the Western delegates to the peace conference decided they must disprove the taunt that, while they could demonstrate freely in London or Washington, they neither would nor could in Moscow. So they bravely marched into Red Square, unfurled a banner and raised it aloft. Whereupon, out of the usual crowd of sightseers in the square, emerged some unremarkable looking gentlemen who ended the demonstration by the extremely simple expedient of unpinning the banner and leaving two young men with nothing in their hands but empty poles. Their demonstration had lasted all of several seconds.

Then, to the astonishment of the Western press, the crowd of sightseers yielded more unexpected talents. It turned out to be made up almost entirely of people who spoke excellent English. Not only that, but they were very well briefed to denounce the demonstrators for showing a lack of courtesy by demonstrating in a foreign country. And they had the standard line of Soviet peace-mongering off pat.

British and American TV crews seized on this rare opportunity to interview Russian men and women in the street. The result was a neat reversal of the demonstrators' intentions. Their peace banner got a few seconds' exposure before a small crowd of "sightseers", while back in Europe and America Soviet propaganda got another outing on the television networks.

I hope Mr Walter and his friends do better with their attempts to communicate with the people of Prague at the next World Peace Council conference, but I doubt it.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JACOBS,
5A Dickenson Road, N8.
April 30.

From Mr Winston S. Churchill, MP for Stretford (Conservative)

Sir, At a time when so many serious *points* are at *issue affecting the* future, indeed the very fate of mankind, I believe that many people (not least among his own supporters) will find it regrettable that the General Secretary of CND, Mgr Bruce Kent, should seek to trivialise the nuclear debate by descending to the level of personal attacks and smear accusations.

You report (April 29) Mgr Kent as saying that there is a "smear campaign" against CND and that "he had evidence that Mr Churchill had weekly meetings with the people running the smear campaign". You further quote him directly as stating: "These people meet with Winston Churchill once a week".

The Monsignor's charge is a grave one, *directed not only against me* but against my parliamentary colleagues on the committee of the Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament and against the members of the Committee for Peace with Freedom, comprising virtually all the multilateralist organisations, with whom I meet quarterly.

I have never taken part, either directly or indirectly, in any smear campaign, nor has such a campaign ever been discussed at the meetings of the two above committees of which I am chairman. I therefore call upon Mgr Kent unequivocally to withdraw his false accusation or to produce his "evidence" that I am involved in a smear campaign *against CND and take part in weekly* meetings with its organisers.

In the absence of such evidence your readers will be able to draw their own conclusions as to who is the smear-monger.

Yours faithfully,
WINSTON S. CHURCHILL,
House of Commons.
May 1.

Mountain accidents

From Mr D. M. Asquith

Sir, In reports of accidents in mountain or moorland country, the separation of a party often appears prominently as the stage when things begin to go wrong. This seems to have been evidenced yet again in the tragic events of last weekend (report, May 3).

Hill walking brings out the differences in both physical ability and psychology which exist in all of us. As a party settles into a routine, a pecking order develops and small groups often establish themselves. In clear conditions this is probably acceptable within reasonable limits, but when weather closes in any distance between front and rear becomes a potential problem. Once those at one end *cannot* be seen *or* heard by those at the other, the dangers increase.

Adventurous activities offer great enjoyment and comradeship. Practicalities apart, it would be quite wrong to talk of banning the *inexperienced from the hills.* Nevertheless the leader of any party should be aware of the hazards and ready to exercise such discipline as varying conditions may demand. That includes keeping the party together.

It is better to be safe than sorry.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. ASQUITH,
Summerfield,
120 Aldcliffe Road, Lancaster.
May 3.

Pints of difference

From Mr Roger Protz

Sir, Mr David Hewsons's article (Saturday, April 16) on British beer and the Campaign for Real Ale asked a number of pertinent and searching questions about the future role of Camra after more than a decade of highly successful proselytizing. It is disappointing that he clouded *his case by factual inaccur*acy and innuendo.

I agree that cask-conditioned beer accounts for some 16 per cent of the total beer market, but that has not been a static figure. Between 1969 and 1979, the consumption of traditional draught beer grew by more than a million pints a day.

To suggest that brewers have returned to cask beer production in order to humour Camra is, frankly, grotesque and is at odds with Mr Hewson's stress on the need for brewing companies to satisfy their investors.

Lager is not drunk by a majority of drinkers. It is, indeed, 30 per cent of the beer market, backed by saturation, costly advertising: it would be interesting to see what traditional beer's percentage would be if the same amount of money were put behind its promotion.

But the lager market is no longer buoyant and all the evidence from brewery watchers and City analysts indicates that it has reached its market plateau. Bitter – draught, keg, bottle and can – remains the dominant beer style in Britain.

To deduce from my future employment plans with the London Borough of Islington that Camra has a "predominantly left-wing drift" is a distortion of the truth. The strength of Camra lies in its lack of political bias, its ability to talk to governments and the EEC free of any dogma, and its convivial use of the talents of people from many backgrounds and political persuasions united by a desire to protect Britain's unique beer style.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PROTZ, Editor,
Good Beer Guide,
Campaign for Real Ale,
34 Alma Road,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.
April 19.

Parliamentary terms

Mr Patrick Nuttgens

Sir, Rather than speculate on which date is more likely to win them the next election, would it not be more honourable if governments saw out the five years for which, after all, we elected them ?

I am not sure when it became the custom to call an election at any time to suit – presumably only since opinion polls became commonplace. Governments must, of course, resign if they lose the confidence of the House. It would surely be more responsible as well as democratic if they carried out the tasks for which we elected them, did their full term and reported to us to find out if we wished them to carry on. (It might also be more popular).

Yours etc,
PATRICK NUTTGENS, Director,
Leeds Polytechnic,
25 Queen Square,
Leeds.
May 1.

A meeting with Lech Walesa

From Father Dominic Kirkham, O. Praem.

Sir, I have recently returned from a tour of Poland, during which I had the good fortune to be able to meet Lech Walesa at his home. We had a lengthy discussion, the main points of which I thought *may be of general* interest.

His first concern was to express his thanks to the British public for all their help and support, not only to him but also to the Polish nation.

Over the position of Solidarity he wanted to make it clear that it was not a trade union and it was not this sort of structure that was his prime interest. He regarded structures as crooked and perverse, and did not want to replace one such structure with another. What he was interested in was a moral renewal of people's own individual lives, a renewal based on the recognition of genuine values such as truth, justice, the recognition of human dignity, freedom and democracy.

Solidarity stood for these values and the people who were trying to attain them. The present regime had tried to destroy Solidarity and in doing so had exposed their own values as the contrary of these: it had shown itself for what it really was, a *lie. Not that he wanted to be* rid of socialism; what he really wanted to do was to bring about a renewal of it based on the values he had mentioned.

For the immediate future he had no particular plans. He was prepared to wait on the course of events for the appropriate time. He felt that a time would come that was right, just as August, 1980, had been the right time. When he had been released from internment he had spoken with General Kiszczak and told him openly that he no intention of renouncing his role as an active leader, so he had nothing to hide on this point. The source of his confidence and hope was the faith of the nation, the faith of his forefathers, which in time of difficulty is always the most important thing.

He saw, in contrast, that the West was afraid of communism because of its lack of faith. The West had put its priority in material possessions *and communism threatened to take* this away and so leave them with nothing. His own material welfare had been provided for by collections taken in the docks; he had not used money from any other sources, though it had been offered

Yours sincerely
DOMINIC,
Norbertine Canons,
Our Lady of England Priory,
Storrington,
Pulborough,
West Sussex.
April 28.

No easy exit

From the Reverend Dr Chad Varah

Sir, Your leader (April 29) manages to discuss suicide in this country without mentioning the Samaritans, to whom the booklet, *Guide to Self-Deliverance*, recommends recourse. The Samaritans were active in 1961 *in pressing for suicide* to be no longer a crime and accepted the severe penalties for aiding and abetting as a reasonable safeguard against murder by this method.

Your contributor, having said that most suicides perhaps spring from desperation over health, money or personal relationships, then goes on instead to blame the availability of "the means" and to regard the use of these as impulsive: if the means are not readily to hand, "the crisis is likely to pass". All by itself? Without either Samaritan befriending or professional help? Would that it were so simple.

"One of the most pregnant lights in the character of suicide," he claims (and I doubt whether even he has a *clear picture of pregnant* lights), is the "sudden fall of no less than one third in the British suicide rate in the years 1964-70, apparently as a result of the introduction of non-poisonous natural gas in the home". The fall was not sudden, but *steady: in England and Wales* it was from 1963-75 and correlated not with the introduction of natural gas but with the rise in the number of Samaritans and of calls upon them.

Now that natural gas is universal, but barbiturates harder to obtain than *in the seventies*, the growth of the Samaritans has levelled off and suicides have begun to rise again.

Tinkering with the means and denigrating the Samaritans is no answer: the poor in Hongkong jump off skyscrapers, in Latin America swallow weedkiller. The causes to tackle are within the person.

Yours faithfully,
CHAD VARAH, Chairman,
Befrienders International,
St Stephen Walbrook, EC4.
May 3.

Financial constraint

From Mr Adrian S. Cox

Sir, Does the fact that the new £1 coins do not get through the hole in the top of Miss Ellacott's money box (April 30) mean that we are in for a consumer boom?

Yours sincerely,
ADRIAN S. COX,
64 Exeter Gardens,
Stamford,
Lincolnshire.
April 30.

From Mr D. C. Fitch

Sir, I am puzzled to know why Miss Ellacott (April 30) should want to put eight terms' pocket money in her money box all at once.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,
D. C. FITCH (65),
12 Church Road,
Alresford,
Colchester,
Essex.
April 30.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 5: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Royal Air Force Coltishall today.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman), the Air Officer Commanding in Chief Strike Command (Air Chief Marshal Sir David Craig) and the Officer Commanding Royal Air Force Coltishall (Group Captain G. R. Profit).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Operations Wing Briefing Headquarters and afterwards viewed Jaguar aircraft and a display of associated engineering facilities.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness then toured Coltishall Airfield School (Headmistress, Mrs J. Ferguson) and later visited the Sergeants' Mess.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, honoured the Officer Commanding Royal Air Force Coltishall with her presence at luncheon in the Officers' Mess, and afterwards viewed a display of Jaguar deployed operations and watched a Flying Dislay.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, attended by the Countess of Airlie, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore, Major-General Michael Palmer and Squadron Leader Adam Wise, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, was present this evening at the Guild's Livery dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London, EC4.

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN, was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 5: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a reception given by the Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher at 10 Downing Street in honour of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President.

Mrs Jane Stevens and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

May 5: The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon opened the Building Conservation Trust's Care of Buildings Exhibition at Hampton Court Palace, Surrey. In the evening His Royal Highness was entertained to Dinner by His Excellency Dr Young Hoon Kang, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, at 28 Parkside, London SW19.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 5: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited Emanuel School and laid the foundation stone for new Junior Classrooms to mark the Centenary of the School at Battersea Rise, London SW11.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, as Patron, later received Lady Bingley, Chairman of the National Association for Mental Health, and the Director, Mr Christopher Heginbotham.

Princess Alexandra will be present at the annual dinner of the Royal Academy of Arts at Burlington House on May 23.

A memorial service for Viscount Head will be held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Tuesday, May 10, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G. M. J. Morrison and The Hon Charlotte Monckton
The engagement is announced between Guy Martin James, only son of Mr M. J. F. Morrison, of West Tytherley, Wiltshire, and of Mrs D. F. B. Keogh, of Brook Farm, Northmoor, Oxfordshire, and Charlotte Anne, only daughter of the late 9th Viscount Galway and of Lady Teresa Agnew, of Melbury House, Dorset.

Dr D. M. Ratcliffe and Miss A. Wilson
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs M. Ratcliffe, of 440 Ombersley Road, Worcester, and Annika, daughter of Sir David and Lady Wilson, of Tandem House, Queen's Drive, Oxshott, Surrey.

Mr I. J. Benjamin and Miss D. H. Karpatkin
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Benjamin, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Deborah, daughter of the late Mr Marvin M. Karpatkin and of Mrs Rhoda H. Karpatkin, of New York.

Mr N. V. Brotherton and Miss M. M. K. Muldoon
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of the late Mr B. V. Brotherton and of Mrs J. P. Brady, of Kew, Surrey, and Margaret, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Muldoon, of Wembley, Middlesex.

Mr C. T. Harding and Miss B. A. Underhill
The engagement is announced of Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs A. F. Harding, of Caerphilly, and Barbara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs V. J. A. Underhill, of Chobham, Surrey.

Mr H. C. J. Marshall and Ms H. E. Williamson
The engagement is announced between Harvey Christopher John Marshall, of London, W2, and Hazel Eleanor Williamson (née Bridden), of London, SW4.

Mr C. D. Billam and Miss M. V. Ansari
The engagement is announced between Cristopher Damien, eldest son of the late Mr R. Billam and Mrs A. Billam, of Paris, France, and Mahtaab Violette, only daughter of Mrs A. G. Lewiston, of Southbourne, Dorset, and Mr D. J. Ansari, of Houston, Texas.

Mr J. D. Lister and Miss C. P. M. Balinska-Jundzill
The engagement is announced between John Dudley Lister, of 4 Chiddingstone Street, London SW6, son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Dudley Lister and of Mrs Lister, of 58 Hurlingham Court, SW6, and Caroline Patricia Maria, daughter of the late Count Jan Balinski-Jundzill and Countess Marie Balinska-Jundzill, of Croft House, Sudbury, Suffolk.

Mr C. M. Packshaw and Miss H. M. Youngman
The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mrs Muriel Packshaw and the late Mr Savile Packshaw, of Rivermead Court, London, SW6, and Helena, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Youngman, of Charsfield Hall, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr J. Story and Miss L. A. Joseph
The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William Story, of Overton-on-Dee, Clwyd, and Lucy, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Joseph, of Barnes, London.

Mr M. W. H. Thomson and Miss U. M. F. McLoughlin
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs A. H. Thompson, of Eweside, Cockburnspath, Berwickshire, and Ursula, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. P. McLoughlin, of Rigaud, Quebec, Canada.

Mr G. Tongue and Miss A. McAlley
The engagement is announced between Graham, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Tongue, of Haselton, Gloucestershire, and Alison, eldest daughter of Mr Ian McAlley, of Marylebone, and of Mrs Mary McAlley, of Wimbledon, London.

Mr J. Rundell and Miss D. E. Fargus
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr G. Rundell and the late Mrs Rundell, of Johannesburg, and Diana, daughter of Colonel and Mrs B. A. Fargus, of Howgate, Midlothian.

Mr J. Weston Smith and Miss E. O'Gorman
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Dr and Mrs John Weston Smith, of Wiggington, Staffordshire, and Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs William O'Gorman, of Weybridge, Surrey

Mr A. Widdowson and Miss K. M. Herbert
The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. Widdowson, of Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, and Katharine Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B. T. Herbert, of Roundhay, Leeds.

Marriages

Mr M.A. Campbell and Miss L.J. Nickson
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 30, at St Mary's, Aberfoyle, of Mr Melfort Andrew Campbell, youngest son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Robert Campbell, of Altries, Maryculter, Aberdeenshire, and Miss Lucy Jane Nickson, second daughter of Mr and Mrs David Nickson, of Renagour, Aberfoyle, Stirling. The Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane officiated and the Rev John Crook and Father Benedict O'Keefe also took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Arabella Cox, Edward Bradford and her sister, Rosemary Nickson. Mr John Meny-Gibert was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Mr M. J. Fabian and Miss E. A. Gwilt
The marriage took place in Shrewbury, Shropshire, on Monday, April 18, of Mr Michael Fabian and Miss Elaine Gwilt.

Words of war: Three posters dating from the First World War, Part of a collection of printed ephemera to be sold at Christie's South Kensington today (Photographs Peter Trievnor)

Sale room

Library table makes £67,800 at Paris auction

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The private collection of M. F. de Paniagua proved a virtual sellout in Paris on Wednesday, fetching almost £600,000. It was a collection suited to furnishing a home with a special accent on faience and arms.

The top price of the day was 800,000 francs (£67,800) for a library table, or bureau plat, of restrained Neo-classical design bearing the stamp of the cabinet-maker J. F. Leleu. It is veneered in rosewood, with simple ormolu mounts.

A pair of attractive landscape paintings by Jean-Baptiste Le Prince secured 510,000 francs (estimate 250,000-300,000 francs) or £43,220 and a pair of Pillement seascapes made 340,000 francs (estimate 200,000-250,000 francs), or £28.814.

The Ministers de la Culture spent 60,000 francs (estimate 80,000-100,000 francs) or £5,085, on a large pewter basin elaborately worked with mythological scenes and dating from 1580-85. It was made by Francois Briot at Montbeliard.

The Musee de laf Chasse, Paris, spent 50,000 francs, or £4,237, on a lady's hunting gun of about 1720 made by Johann Paul Breidenfeiter at Carlsbad, and the same price for a Louis XV hunting knife made in the Far East for the European market.

In the faience section there was a fine eighteenth-century Mousteiers plate, with the centre decorated with Jonah behing regurgitated by the whale, in a very pretty landscape, which sold for 90,000 francs (estimate 40,000-50,000 francs) or £7,627. The silver included a fine rococo soup tureen and cover of 1770 by Honoré Burel of Aix at 218,000 francs (£18,457).

At Christie's yesterday a sale of scientific instruments, clocks and watches ran into some difficulties with the more important lots. The sale totalled £149,657, but 38 per cent was left unsold. A George III mahogany longcase regulator by John Shelton was unsold at £24,000.

The watches sold better than the clocks, with a Swiss gold hunter-cased minute-repeating keyless lever perpetual calendar watch at £8,640 (estimate £7,000-£10,000) selling to an English dealer.

OBITUARY

MR JOHN ALDRIDGE
Painter and illustrator

Mr John Aldridge, RA, who died on May 3 at the age of 77, was a gifted artist, a passionate gardener, and an erudite, gentle man.

He died as he would have wished: at home in Great Bardfield, in the house that for half a century had meant so much to him, and within sight of both his garden and the countryside of Essex which, together, had been the mainspring of his inspiration, since he first went exploring that way on his bicycle in the early 1930s.

The son of Major John Bartelott Aldridge, DSO, RHA, and of Margaret Jessica (née Goddard), John Arthur Malcolm Aldridge was born on July 26, 1905.

Educated at Uppingham School and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he was a Classical Scholar, graduating in LitHum, his interest in painting quickly developed in his early twenties, enabling him to have his first one-man show at the Leicester Gallery in 1933, at the age of 28. It was the year that he had moved from Hammersmith to Essex and the work he then exhibited was seen as something of a new flavour in British painting: strongly native, but of local character, stark and wiry, sometimes with even a slightly sinister suggestion, as shown by an old house squarely silhouetted against the clear Essex sky.

At the time John Aldridge was one of several young artists, including Eric Ravilious, who after the First World War were discovering the landscape of Essex. Unlike Norfolk and Suffolk, the area was still comparatively neglected by artists, although it was perhaps not now so much the landscape that excited them, but the houses and the villages in it: Finchingfield, Shalford, Wethersfield and Little and Great Bardfield in particular.

Aldridge's intuitive skill and his love of buildings and landscape were certainly important factors in ensuring him early recognition as an artist. His first public exhibition of work was as a member (from 1931-34) of that informal association of artists, the Seven and Five Society. Lasting longer than many such groups – 1920-35 – it included among its members Winifred Baker (Nicholson), Ivon Hitchens, David Jones, Cedric Morris, Ben Nicholson and John Piper. After further exhibitions at the Leicester Gallery in 1936, 1940 and 1947, Aldridge exhibited regularly at the Royal Academy from 1948 onwards, and in more recent years on a number of occasions at the New Grafton Gallery.

His work has been acquired by the National Portrait Gallery, the Royal Academy of Arts, the Tate Gallery, the Ministry of Works, the Italian Ministry of Education, by Aberdeen, Leeds, Manchester, Newport and Northampton, and by the British Council and the Contemporary Art Society.

An accomplished draughtsman, John Aldridge did a number of book and other illustrations, including those for The Life of the Dead, by Laura Riding (1933) and Adam was a Ploughman by C. Henry Warren (1948). Of particular importance were the illustrations he provided for publication by the Seizin Press, edited by Robert Graves and Laura Riding, whom he and his first wife, Lucie, had first come upon in 1931, in Deya, Mallorca.

In subsequent years he spent much time there painting landscapes and, as Laura Riding thought him "the only eloquent painter", doing portraits of them both. It was there that he did the National Portrait Gallery head of Graves who felt that his friend, as a landscape painter, was the right person to take on so formidable a task.

Although he never went to an art school himself, John Aldridge became a remarkable and valued part-time teacher at the Slade, where from 1949 to 1970 he was an assistant lecturer under the then Slade Professor, William Coldstream. It is especially as a teacher and friend that he will long be remembered by a whole generation of students, many of whom recall with nostalgia the lasting impression of civilised living and gracious hospitality that pervaded his home in Great Bardfield.

John Aldridge was married twice: first, in 1940, to Celia Lucie Leeds Brown (née Saunders). The marriage was dissolved in 1970, and in the same year he married Margareta (Gretl) Anna Maria Cameron (née Bajardi) She died earlier this year. There were no children by either marriage.

DR VICTOR NORTON

Dr Victor Norton, for 27 years editor of the Cape Times till his retirement in 1971, died in Cape Town on May 4. He was 76.

Norton was known for his pungent political commentary, for his courage and his sense of justice. His tenure of office, which began in 1944, spanned a challenging period in South Africa. The emergence of a nationalist government in 1948 was followed by fierce political controversy in which the Cape Times figured prominently. Under his direction the newspaper fiercely attacked measures such as the Group Areas Act, which it regarded as negative and destructive of human dignity.

An honorary Doctorate of Literature was conferred on him by Rhodes University, Grahamstown, in 1973.

DR ANTON BUTTIGEIG

Dr Anton Buttigeig, who died on May 5 at the age of 71, was President of Malta from 1976 to 1981. A prolific poet and journalist, he had also been Deputy Prime Minister, and President and Deputy Leader of the Malta Labour Party.

Born in Gozo on February 19, 1912 Buttigeig embraced the law and qualified as a Notary Public before the war. He was a law reporter and leader writer on the Times of Malta from 1944 to 1948 subsequently edited the Labour Party newspaper The Voice of Malta, from 1959, during which period he was fined for libelling the editor of the Times of Malta, in 1962.

He was elected to Parliament in 1956 and was Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs from 1971 to 1976 as well as being Deputy Prime Minister from 1971 to 1974.

A poet from his teens, Buttigeig published numerous volumes of verse from the end of the war onwards, beginning with the lyric *Mill-Gallerija ta' Zghoziti (From the Balcony of my Youth)* in 1945. But though always describing himself as a "Wordsworthian" he also published volumes of comic verse, such as *Ejjew nidkhu Ftit (Let us Laugh a Bit)* and had experimented with Japanese verse forms to produce the first Maltese *haiku*.

He was three times married.

Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Graham Moncrieff of Kinmonth, MC, who died on May 1 at the age of 89, became JP for Perthshire in 1933 and Deputy Lieutenant of Sutherland in 1946.

Brigadier Thomas Sheffield, CBE, who has died in Middlesbrough, was deputy Lieutenant of County Durham 1950-74 and of Cleveland in 1974.

Luncheons

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Sir Peter Mills, deputy chairman, United Kingdom Branch, was host at a luncheon given yesterday in the House of Commons by the executive committee of the UK Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in honour of Commonwealth parliamentarians attending the 1983 parliamentary visit at Westminster.

Butchers' Company
The Master of the Butchers' Company, Mr R. J. Lickorish, presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday to welcome the newly formed Meat Industry Training Organization. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr Frederick J. Mallion and the reply was given by Lord Peart, chairman of the organization.

Receptions

Speaker
The Speaker gave a reception in Speaker's House yesterday evening to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the Institute of Sports Medicine. Members of both Houses of Parliament were among the guests.

European National Secretaries of Rehabilitation International
Mr John Hannam, MP, and Mr Lewis Carter-Jones, MP, entertained the European National Secretaries of Rehabilitation International at a reception in the House of Commons last night. They were received by the Minister for Social Security and the Disabled, Mr Hugh Rossi.

Among the other guests were:
Baroness Lane-Fox, Mr D G Russell, Mr J M Blackburn; Dr J G Sommerville, Chairman of the executive committee of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, and Mrs Sommerville, Mr E S Bontoft and Lord Colgrain, joint treasurers, and Lady Colgrain, and Dr Harry Fang, President of Rehabilitation International, and Mrs Fang.

National Maritime Museum
The Trustees and Director of the National Maritime Museum and members of the Admiralty Board were joint hosts for a reception at the museum for the opening of the Centenary Exhibition of the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors on Tuesday, May 3. The First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, Sir John Fieldhouse, formally opened the exhibition. Dr Basil Greenhill, director of the museum, and Mr K. H. W. Thomas, head of the corps, also spoke.

Dinners

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy
The annual dinner of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy was held at the Imperial College of Science and Technology yesterday. Mr Michael West, president of the institution, was in the chair. The principal speaker was Mr C. F. Barber and other speakers included Mr K. B. Smale-Adams, president-elect, and Mr P. G. Smith.

St Albans Cathedral Trust
St Albans Cathedral Trust held a dinner last night in the Chapter House. The speakers included the Bishop of St Albans, Sir Eric Cheadle, chairman of the Trust and Abbey Appeal, and the Mayor of St Albans. The Dean of St Albans made a presentation to Lady Aldenham, wife of the retiring trust chairman. Among those present were:
The Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire Lord Aldenham, Lord Luke, Sir Kenneth Cork, Mr Anthony Cayzer, Mr Simon Bowes Lyon and other members of the Trust and Appeal Committee.

University College London
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Alderman and Sheriff Alan Traill, were present at a dinner given by University College London at the Mansion House yesterday. Sir Peter Matthews, chairman of council, and Lady Matthews, the Provost, Sir James Lighthill and Lady Lighthill, received the guests, who included:
The Lord Chancellor, the Honourable Mary Hogg, the High Commissioner for Australia, the Norwegian Ambassador, the High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Master of the Rolls, Visitor, and Alderman Lady Donaldson, Lord Moyne, Lord Shepherd, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Sir Peter Parker, Sir Bernard Scott, Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of London University, Mr Jerry Wiggin, MP and Mr George Howard.

Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators
The Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, presided at a livery dinner held at Fishmongers' Hall yesterday. The Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, the Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company and the Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators also spoke.

Newspaper Society
The Speaker was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Newspaper Society held on Wednesday at Grosvenor House. Mr C. N. D. Cole, president, accompanied by Mrs Cole, was in the chair and among others present were:
The Duke of Atholl, Lord and Lady Marsh, Sir Alex and Lady Jarratt, Mr and Mrs R A Stiby, Mr and Mrs P W Barker, Mr and Mrs D Lowndes, Mr Patrick Neill, QC, and Mrs Neill, Mr and Mrs D R Campbell, Mr and Mrs R Ridley-Thomas, Mr and Mrs A J Ormond, Mr and Mrs M Barrington-Ward and Prebendary Dewi Morgan.

Fellowship of Engineering
The Duke of Edinburgh, Senior Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, presided at the New Fellow's dinner held at the Apothecaries' Hall on Wednesday, May 4, and was received on arrival by the president of the fellowship, Viscount Caldecote.

Service dinners

Honorable Artillery Company
Officers of the Honorable Artillery Company held their annual dinner at Armoury House, last night. General Sir Victor Fitzgeorge Balfour was in the chair and the guests included the Adjutant General, General Sir George Cooper, and the Governor of the Tower of London, Major-General G. H. Mills.

TA&VR Association for the Low lands of Scotland
The Lord Lieutenant and Lord Provost for the City of Edinburgh, Mr Tom Morgan, was present at a dinner given by the Lowland TA&VR Association at the Howard Hotel, Edinburgh, last night to mark the retirement of Colonel Bryce Knox as president of the association and Brigadier Nigel Stisted as Commander, 52nd Lowland Bigade.

The GOC Army Scotland, Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Boswell, and the Commander, 52nd Lowland Brigade, Brigadier Peter Stevenson, were present. Lieutenant-Colonel William Swan, president of the association, presided.

St Christopher's School, Hampstead

St Christopher's School, Hampstead, is celebration its centenary this year. To mark the occasion there will be a garden party in July for past pupils. Requests for invitations should be addressed to the School Secretary, St Christopher's School, 32, Belsize Lane, NW3.

Merchant Taylors School, Northwood

OMT Day is on Saturday, June 18, 1983, and also the fiftieth anniversary reception, "Manor of the Rose". Details are available from OMT Society, Durrants, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

St Bees School

The following events will take place to celebrate the quartercentenary of the foundation of St Bees School. On Monday, May 30, there will be a fête pageant and flower festival. Princess Anne will make a visit on Tuesday, June 28, when she will officially open Lonsdale, the school's second house for girls. At Speech Day on Saturday, July 9, the preacher will be the Bishop of Carlisle and the guest of honour at prize-giving will be Lord Schon. The Quartercentenary Ball is on Friday, September 2.

University news

Oxford
Elections
QUEEN'S COLLEGE: Holwell studentship in theology, from October 1: Mary E Hayter, BA, Jesus College.

Polish theme for Proms with 'bright future'

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The 1983 season of promenade concerts at the Albert Hall, in London, presented by the BBC, has been given a budget of more than £1m, an increase of £100,000 over last year, Mr Robert Ponsonby, the BBC's Controller, Music, announced yesterday.

He said at the launching of the programme for Proms 83, the eighty-ninth season of the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, that the agreement on the increased budget by the board of governors reflected the BBC's concern "to maintain the highest possible standards and the richest possible range of music in the proms".

Last year the concerts played to 71 per cent of capacity at the Albert Hall, attracting about 180,000 people during the season. That represented an increase in attendance of 2 per cent over the previous year, when other concert halls were losing up to 10 per cent of their audiences.

"The future of the Proms is bright despite the financial climate", Mr Ponsonby said.

"We believe that one of the reasons for this support is that we have steadily pursued a policy which insists on novelty as a vital ingredient of the programme building. Our public likes to be challenged by new and unfamiliar music, and it responds positively", he said.

Answering criticism that too much contemporary music might keep people away, Mr Ponsonby agreed that they could increase the attendance at the Albert Hall to 95 per cent with popular programmes. "But how boring they would be, and that policy would kill off the Proms in a few years."

For this year the theme is Polish, after the French flavour last year. There will also be works by more than twenty British composers, half of them living, including several first performances, but it has been achieved, in Mr Ponsonby's words, "without significant loss to the great central repertoire of accepted masterpieces".

There are five works by Bach, 14 by Beethoven, 13 by Mozart and six by Brahms.

A new booking system has been introduced for the last night, on September 17, because of increasing fears that the atmosphere is being spoilt by a few over-exuberant members of the audience.

"It seemed that those concerned had missed the point of what is essentially a musical occasion, the celebration of a great concert series concluded, and not an extra-musical jamboree", Mr Ponsonby said.

The usual ballot for last night tickets has been replaced by a scheme in which people can apply for tickets for the last night provided they also book for at least four other events during the Proms season, in order to ensure that the final concert is attended by regular concert goers and the Proms' most loyal supporters.

Concert details, page 13

Birthdays today

Sir John Arnold, 68; Air Chief Marshal Sir Walter Dawson, 81; Sir John Elliot, 85; Mr R. Fell, 62; Mr Stewart Granger, 70; Major-General J. Hamilton-Jones, 57; Sir Ronald Harris, 70; the Rev A. H. Hawkins, 100; Mr K. G. Holden, 73; Sir Patrick Meaney, 58; Mr Alan Ross, 61; the Right Rev John Taylor, 54; Mr Orson Welles, 68.

Memorial service

Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Langley
A memorial service for Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Langley was held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The Rev J. S. Westmuckett officiated, assisted by the Rev Bruce Lyons (chaplain, RAF Escaping Society). Mr Christopher Langley (son) read the lesson and Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Dawnay gave an address.

Among those present were:
Mrs Langley (widow), Mr Michael Langley, Mr Peter Langley and Mr Roderick Langley (sons), Mrs Patrick Hewetson (daughter), Mrs Christopher Langley (daughter-in-law), Mr J. Edmunds (brother-in-law), Mr Anthony Crossman, Mr David Crossman [illegible]

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Nicholas Barrington to be Ambassador to the Lebanese Republic in succession to Sir David Roberts.

Mr Alan Goodison to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland in succession to Sir Leonard Figg.

Mr Dugal Nisbet-Smith, a former managing director of Times Newspapers Ltd and now publishing adviser to the Aga Khan, to be director of the Newspaper Society

Latest wills

Farmer's £1m estate

Mr William Thomas Clothier, of Hungerford, a farmer, left estate valued at £1,001,728 net.

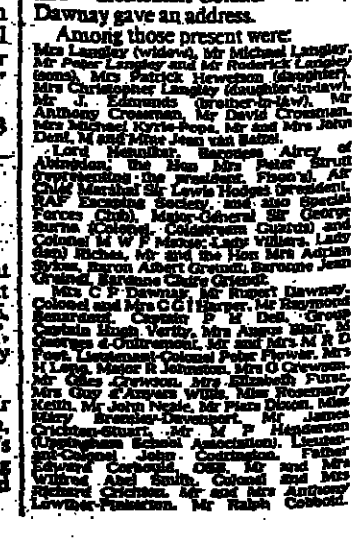
Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Brassington, Mr Raymond, of Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs £239,725
Candle, Captain Lindsay Edward, of Southsea, Hampshire £278,880
Cook, Mrs Freda Winifred, of Bath £211,566
Doward, Doris, of Blundellsands, Merseyside £271,699
Goran, Mr John Carlo, of Hale, Greater Manchester £331,407
Jackson, Mr Richard, of Sherburn, North Yorkshire £264,336
Scott, Mrs Laura Innes, of Ermington, Devon £196,075
Smith, Mr John Edward, of Stratford-on-Avon £225,569
Sutcliffe, Miss Pauline Mary, of Beckwithshaw, North Yorkshire £307,943
Wesley, Mr William, of Stoke Goldington, Buckinghamshire £218,670

Tree to mark site of Lawrence crash

A tree is to be planted at Bovington Camp, Dorset, next Friday to mark the spot where T. E. Lawrence, "Lawrence of Arabia", died in a motor-cycle crash in May 1935.

The oak is being planted by Mr Tom Beaumont, from Luton, Bedfordshire, who was Lawrence's machine-gunner during the fighting in Arabia during the First World War.



THE ARTS

Television

Parody clichés

Alter Image (Channel 4) is, on the model of Off-Broadway, off-television: odd little items which you have to make an effort to see, a combination of "access television" and a polytechnic course. Last night's episode was a haphazard and somewhay desultory affair, in which the young presenters adopted a disdainful attitude to the medium they were using. For most of them, of course, "the box" has been just that – a piece of wooden family furniture which, because once they worshipped it, they now profess to despise: they like to kick it as hard as possible but they also want to stand upon it, or reasons of self-advertisement.

In the first sketch, four performers parodied the usual gestural clichés of television presenters: they got them just about right, and were amusing as a result. The generation who were nourished on the pap of television have, of course, assimilated visual techniques in an instinctive or unconscious fashion, and it was perhaps significant, for those who are interested in recent social history, that all of the items in this short programme were devoted either to parodying televisual clichés or to concentrating upon those who manipulate the visual images of our culture.

There was a mercifully brief profile of a furniture designer, Tommy Roberts, who turns chairs and kitchen units into the stuff of dreams or nightmares, and a report by Andrew Logan on Zandra Rhodes: a case of the colour-blind leading the colour-blind.

The strength of the programme lies in its visual tricks, although sometimes they resemble a pogrom in Disneyland, but it is unclear what lies beneath them. The last item in the programme was called "Maasai", with sounds by "Global Rain Music." I suspect that we were meant to identify the black dancers with African warriors but, in their orange and pink vestments, they looked more like refugees from Hot Gossip – O-level anthropolgy doing a turn on Hampstead Heath. There is a great deal to be said for an "alternative" image on British television, but it is important to make the alternative interesting.

Peter Ackroyd

Cinema

Perilous greed in British euphoria

Educating Rita (15)
Classic Haymarket; Warner West End

Eureka (18)
Screen on the Hill

British films have never looked in better shape. *Gandhi*, having carried off even more Oscars than did *Chariots of Fire* last year, stands second in this week's *Variety* chart of top-grossing films, with *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life* close behind, at sixth, and *Local Hero* climbing fast. Channel 4's film production programme has introduced a new sense of continuity into British cinema and new attitudes to film finance. The Channel 4 enterprise has demonstrated that films can be made in Britain on the kind of budget that is normal in continental European production and is much less inhibiting to creative work than the old inflated Hollywood scale of activity. As a result of this discovery, more Britiah directors have been able to make feature films in the last 18 months than in any comparable period in the past.

The problem now facing the British cinema is how to consolidate this happy situation. The history of our film industry teaches us that the only thing that has consistently proved more dangerous than failure is success. Britain has had its chances before – in the mid-Thirties, the late Forties, the early Sixties. Every time euphoria set the industry leaping, and always in the wrong directions. Instead of analyzing phenomena and rationalizing strategies, the British cinema has always looked for instant formulas and magical elixirs.

The most primitive reaction to success is imitation; and it is a dispiriting prospect that investors are likely for the next year or so to favour hagiographies of world leaders and sagas of adversity and triumph on the sports field. Then there is the urge to thrust the successful into the roles of witchdoctor and rain-maker. The worst of this is that the tribesmen turn so vindictive when their magicians do not bring rain every time: we must not forget what happened, in turn, to Alexander Korda and Brian Forbes.

The new rain-makers will be Sir Richard Attenborough and David Puttnam; and from now on they will be expected to work the same magic every time. If they do not there will be no forgiving. It is a stupid and unfair burden to put upon them. David Puttnam is a producer of flair and courage who has a dual ambition to make successful films and to make good films. It is in the nature of that ambition that he has had failures, will have failures and must have failures. The only way to avoid failure is to attempt nothing, to play safe; and playing safe has never made good cinema or good art of any other kind. We should not forget that the all-time box-office flops include *Intolerance, The Battleship Potemkin, Greed, A Woman of Paris, La Règle du jeu* and *Citizen Kane*.

Greed for success is indeed the most perilous delirium that affects our industry and its advisers in these times of euphoria. The lessons of *Chariots of Fire* and *Gandhi*, they say, is that what we should be making now are *successful* films like ... like ... *Chariots of Fire* and *Gandhi*. Everyone spots winners when the race is over. This kind of advice leaves out of account the fact that the commercial potential of these two films was so far from apparent that it took Attenborough 20 years to find the money for *Gandhi*, while David Puttnam had to go abroad to find backing for *Chariots of Fire*.

Another bad symptom of the success syndrome is the rejection of old friends. The National Film Finance Corporation – the one small token of official support for film production in this country – has lately come in for some knocking, for instance. It is singularly mistimed. The NFFC's record of imaginative investment has never been better; but the knocking could create a climate to encourage Mr Iain Sproat, the Under Secretary of State for Trade, to reduce his support, just when he ought to be looking for ways to increase it.



Latter-day Eliza's first encounter with the professor: Michael Caine and Julie Walters in *Educating Rita*

There has seemed, indeed, almost a conspiracy to underplay the NFFC's successes. Most reviewers of James Scott's *A Shocking Accident*, which won the Oscar for the best short film of the year, neglected to mention that it was an NFFC production. The favourite charges against the NFFC are that it finances films which are elitist and financially unprofitable. Neither charge seems appropriate to *Gregory's Girl*, which must be yielding back the corporation's investment tenfold. In any case it is very questionable whether the NFFC should be investing with an eye to profit. An obviously commercial project (if there were any such animal) ought to find ready private investment.

The NFFC should be permitted to see its brief as investment in ideas or talent that – precisely because they are new, innovative and untried – cannot readily get commercial investment elsewhere. The corporation should have been able to invest in *Chariots of Fire* when it could not find money in Britain. *Gregory's Girl*, rejected by everyone else including the British Film Institute Production Board, would not have existed without the NFFC and Scottish Television.

The charge of elitism may, of course, apply to *Babylon*, which required subtitles to translate the English spoken in a South London community. *Babylon* is historically one of the corporation's most important films, for the accuracy with which it defined a troubled area of contemporary British society. If the Home Secretary and his Chief Constables had seen it in May 1980, they would have been much better prepared and briefed for the city riots of the summer that followed.

Unfortunately MPs – in this country at least – do not seem to go to the cinema. This is why the notion that films should receive official support, just like the opera, the theatre, the ball-bearing industry or the railways, never elicits a favourable official response. Official subvention to the French cinema now amounts to £55m and to the German cinema £23m. The British film industry benefits from £4m from the Eady levy. Even as a trade asset films are surely worth more than this. In 1981 they earned £31m overseas and for 1982 and 1983 the figures will be considerably better. The potential value of cinema as a cultural asset is more important, though, and incalculable.

Educating Rita is an efficient and good-hearted commercial film, with a script developed out of his own stage success by Willy Russell. It is essentially a variation of Shaw's *Pygmalion*: Rita is the 1980s' Eliza Doolittle, concerned to improve not her elocution but her mind. Her Higgins is her Open University tutor, a boozy and disappointed poet and English lecturer. Behind the laughs, it is a good deal bleaker than Shaw. Rita wins through, but Willy Russell clearly remains pessimistic about the possibilities of social mobility; and only a working-class writer would have nerve enough to show the working class as so cruelly limited in education and ambition.

The scenes of Rita's home life are newly written for the screen. The play was a duologue in the tutor's room: and these scenes remain the strongest in the script. They are expertly played by Michael Caine and Julie Walters, who looks like Lillian Harvey, has a thick Merseyside accent and delicately juggles comedy and pathos. Shot in Dublin, it is resourcefully directed by Lewis Gilbert, one of the great troupers of British films.

Nicolas Roeg's **Eureka**, from a script by Paul Mayersberg, is bizarre. It is film buff's nightmare, a crazy quilt of scenes and lines from films remembered from long ago – and not very good ones at that, though there is the crystal snowball from *Citizen Kane*. The plot itself rushes bewilderly through *The Gold Rush, The Sword in the Stone, Citizen Kane, Caught* and *Friday the Thirteenth* (Parts I, II and III) and ends rather tamely as *Witness for the Prosecution*. The dialogue provides some diversion. "I took a bath today", says a dusky siren of the wilderness. "Perhaps because of you. It's been a long time." Serious actors like Gene Hackman, Theresa Russell, Rutger Hauer and Corin Redgrave have somehow landed in this miscalculated and humourless farrago. But everyone must be forgiven failure once in a while.

David Robinson

Proms 83

Polish on parade

A Polish theme pervades Proms 83, the eighty-ninth season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, to be presented by the BBC from July 22 to September 17. Lutoslawski, Panufnik and Penderecki will all conduct their own music, and the Polish flavour is completed by Chopin, Tadeuz Baird and Szymanowski, whose Third Symphony rather daringly takes its place along with traditional British works on the last night of the Proms.

Penderecki will be conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a performance of his *St Luke Passion* on July 31, while Lutoslawski conducts two works, including his Cello Concerto, with the soloist Roman Jablonski, with the same orchestra on August 30. Panufnik and the BBC Symphony Orchestra will play his *Sinfonia Votiva*, which celebrates the icon of the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, a symbol of independent Poland, on September 14.

The 57 concerts which make the Proms the biggest music festival in the world include a strong representation of modern, particularly British, works. The world première of Peter Maxwell Davies's *Sinfonia Concertante* takes place on August 12, with Neville Marriner conducting the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, and there are premières also of works by Elizabeth Maconchy, Dominic Muldowney and Robert Saxton. *Triple Duo*, by the American composer Elliott Carter, commissioned by the BBC, receives its first European performance, by the Fires of London, on August 7.

The season opens with a programme of works by Beethoven (Mass in C major), Wagner and Berlioz, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under its chief conductor, Sir John Pritchard, while Norman Del Mar is awarded the distinction of conducting the last night.

Only once during the season does a Prom venture outside the Royal Albert Hall, and for the first time St Luke's Church, Chelsea, is being used, for a performance of English Renaissance music by the Julian Bream Consort.

Visiting orchestras include the Concertgebouw conducted by Bernard Haitink and the Israel Philharmonic under its music director Zubin Mehta, each of which gives two concerts in September. Following the Polish thread, the Polish Chamber Orchestra will play on August 26 – not Polish music but a programme of Handel and Bach.

Those booking for September 3 should take care. Prom 43 has the Concertgebouw Orchestra, but Prom 44 starts at 11 pm the same evening and is an all-night programme of music from India, following a successful similar venture in 1981.

Operatic performances include a visit from the Glyndebourne company with Rossini's *La cenerentola* on August 11 in a "semi-staged" version. Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie* also receives a "semi-staged" production, from the Monteverdi Choir and the English Baroque Soloists conducted by John Eliot Gardiner on August 6; and on September 6 the London Sinfonietta mounts a staged performance of Stravinsky's one-act opera *Mavra*.

A special concert in tribute to the late Sir William Walton will be given on August 16 with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir John Pritchard.

Christopher Warman

Concerts

Lindsay Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Beethoven's originality, his sense of purpose, his extremes of temperament, even a modest amount of charm, were among the qualities celebrated in the first concert on Wednesday of a Beethoven series by the Lindsay Quartet, Manchester University's "Quartet in Residence". The rest of the Beethoven cycle follows in five further programmes at the Wigmore Hall, on three Saturdays and two Wednesdays, this month and next.

Perhaps it was the scale of their intention that Peter Cropper, the first violinist, and his colleagues signalled by launching themselves into the midst of Beethoven's quartet writing with what the composer called his "Quartetto serioso", Op 95 in F minor. "To me, this piece epitomizes Beethoven", Mr Cropper wrote in a programme note, and demonstrated what he meant by leading a performance propelled by an equal mixture of rhythmic impetus and vitality of spirit, serious in character, certainly, but never solemn.

These players accord Beethoven a thoughtful affection, as well as lively respect, treating the quartets not as museum music, for all their foundation strength to the classical repertory, but as a very present experience for us to share. The way they made the finale of Op 95 kick up its heels in sheer exuberance, for instance, or allowed the faster F major interlude to disrupt the Adagio cantabile movement of Op 18 No 2, reflected a welcome freshness of thought.

The latter quartet was a notably well chosen contrast to the first they played, reinforcing some consistent qualities of style and technique. These included the occasional extra prominence given to the inner parts; a certain heaviness of rhythmic emphasis; secure intonation, and a rich sonority of ensemble built from the majestic quality of the Ruggieri cello, played by Bernard Gregor-Smith.

All these elements and more were combined in a splendidly wide-ranging account of the first "Rasumovsky" Quartet (Op 59 No 1, in F). The style of the opening movement had an impressive breadth of sensibility as between each of the players, as well as force of character, and the Scherzo was informed by an awareness of its novelty. Beethoven's own "Willow song" in the slow movement had sentiment, without indulgence, and the overall achievement was much to be enjoyed.

Noël Goodwin

LMP/Blech
Festival Hall

There is no reason on earth why one should not leave a concert of mainstream Haydn, Mozart and Schubert with nerves tingling, feeling as reinvigorated as if one had heard the most imaginative and challenging of new twentieth-century works. The only sign of any such stimulus in the torpid air of Wednesday night's concert was the sporadic tapping of finger and foot to the sturdy and comforting beat which Harry Blech and the London Mozart Players doggedly uncovered through the often teasing rhythmic invention of the three composers.

The mellowness and wisdom of age was there, and rightly so, in Haydn's Symphony No 97, with some warm, well-knit string ensemble. But Haydn's eye still twinkled in his sixties, and the outer movements, particularly the finale, needed a lighter touch, a keener sense of the unpredictable to counterbalance the symmetry, than the rather bullish urgency the tempi were able to afford. The slow movement's variations, likewise, were cultivated enough, but charmless in the dampened inner life of their phrasing.

On to Mozart and his E flat Sinfonia Concertante, K 364, in which Norbert Brainin and Peter Schidlof stepped out of the Amadeus Quartet to be the evening's violin and viola soloists. They got on well enough, as they should, but frequently more in the spirit of a duel rather than a duet, bows flashing like rapiers in an unusually pugnacious performance.

If there at first appeared to be more crude might than majesty in the opening, the second idea slowed down almost intolerably as if to compensate, only to be assaulted by an exaggeratedly hawkish rising theme. And so it was all the way through the work: a ragged rhetoric on the part of the soloists, which at times verged on caricature, would pull against sluggish orchestral playing with the result that the work's just and finely judged proportions were all but distorted.

Feet were stuck even deeper in the mud in Schubert's Symphony No 3 after the interval. The general opaqueness of texture was relieved only by some delightful oboe solos, while the second movement hobbled along where it should have skipped, lacking at times even the energy to raise its foot cleanly onto the first step.

Hilary Finch

Theatre

Myth fed back into personal experience

West
Warehouse

Steven Berkoff is the lone warrior of the British stage. As an actor, director and playwright he comes on armour-plated with technique, challenging a hostile public to fault his work: a man expecting to be given nothing except what he wins by feats of valour, and exorcizing some personal demon in a career of ever-expanding conquest.

At first glance, his new play seems to contradict this pattern by returning to the territory he annexed eight years ago in *East*. Substitute Stamford Hill and Hoxton for the Whitechapel Road, and it is the same horror-comic world of street gangs, reintroducing the same characters and serving up the same witch's brew of cockney verbal aggro and Shakespearian burlesque.

Mick, the gang-leader, returns as protagonist along with his sex-object girlfriend and defeated, television-drugged parents. Sex and razor fights amount to much the same thing for these violently stunted urban prisoners to whom even the sun rises "like a biscuit behind the glue factory".

Since the earlier play, though, Berkoff has been exploring classical myth, which he has now fed back into the world of personal experience. The new piece still erupts with the huge rages and desires of drean fantasy, but they are disciplined by legend; and the sense of burlesque gradually gives way to that of heroic fable.

West tells the story of Mick's showdown with an enemy gang-leader (the Hoxton Fiend) and with his parents. He begins living at home, supported by his gang; he ends alone and destitute, baying defiance at the unheroic spectators. That last sting in the tail has been well prepared. Mick goes through a succession of heroic prototypes, as Richard III, Childe Roland and Beowolf; and thanks to these masks he can acknowledge his vulnerability. It is beyond the bounds of any Berkoff character to express affection, but at least Mick can admit to fear and loneliness, speak with pity for neglected children, and drop his shield of rhetoric when facing his father for the last time.

Berkoff's production is inseperable from the text, projecting it through highly-drilled expressionist pantomime images to percussion accompaniment. A blank-faced chorus snap into precise life as dance-floor robots or drilling bingo players, creating the environment as well as the human figures. The one serious failure is in Mick's anti-climactic action narrative of his duel with the Hoxton Grendel. However, Rory Edwards's broodingly withdrawn Mick emerges as a human figure among the grotesques, giving the lie to the idea that all Berkoff's actors act like Berkoff.

Irving Wardle

The Brylcreem Boys
Young Vic Studio

Peter Durrant's study of a flak-shocked RAF bomber crew went down well enough on television in 1979 for the BBC to repeat it two years later, but now that Marylebone Theatre Productions are launching the play on a fresh lease of life it is a pity that the author has not cleared up some glaring structural faults that disfigure a basically good idea.

The Brylcreem Boys takes place in a 1944 RAF hospital ward occupied by a group of damaged flyers who are suffering from the delusion that they are still aircrew.

As we first see them, opening family mail, leafing through *Picture Post*, they look entirely normal. Then various oddities begin appearing: one of the boys collapses when his paper aeroplane comes to grief; another finishes a loving letter home by telling his mother to sod off. They go berserk in "Dawn Patrol" games, and ritualistically lower a towel for the Last Post. Then night falls and the hitherto immobile Skipper arises from his catatonic trance to lead them on a near-fatal Nuremberg raid.

Mr Durrant tells this story from the viewpoint of an outsider: a young soldier who had gone down with frostbite after falling asleep on guard duty, and whom, for reasons best known to herself, the hospital sister places in the RAF ward.

Naturally, the inmates close ranks against this intruder and do all they can to give him a hard time. As a result, whatever sympathy you might have for Skipper's crew is deflected towards their victim. The fantasy raid is equally mismanaged. It is unclear whether the others are playing along for their beloved leader's benefit or engaging in a shared act of auto-therapy. Nor is there any suggestion of whether it does Skipper any good, or is merely a *folie à six* fantasy they engage in from time to time.

Once the crew have built their bomber out of beds and swivel chairs and taken off, their clinical personalities disappear, thus inviting the spectator to join in the simple excitement of a group of boys playing aeroplanes; and as none of the calamities of the flight corresponds to the psychological wounds they have exhibited in the first act the fantasy has precious little to do with the surrounding study of personality.

Mr Durrant has done his RAF homework and writes good, muscular dialogue for a well contrasted set of characters. Russell Sommers's aggressively undersized gunner and Dean Allen's hysterical navigator carry full conviction, as does John Mangan's stage management of the cramped interior of the plane; though nothing seems quite real after the opening sight of Ian Cinderby doing a Max Wall routine to pass the time on stage and then curling up for a kip in his sentry box.

Irving Wardle

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Good news for Bowater

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 9. Settlement Day, May 16.

Bowater Corp, one of the world's largest paper manufacturers, was the toast of the stock market yesterday at the shares *shook off recent gloom to end to* day 19p higher at 189p.

Earlier this week, more than 1.25 million shares were overhanging the market with few signs of buyers as the price drifted to within hailing distance of the year's low of 150p. But with those out of the way the buyers returned in force amid rumours of a bid from the United States and hopes of a big rise in the price of newsprint there.

Last night, the company was quick to dispel rumours of a bid. "There is no truth in it whatsoever", said Mr Dennis Rees at Bowater. Seagrams, the world's biggest distillers, also denied it in New York that was interested in making a bid.

But Bowater did admit that it was ready to follow the lead of America's big two newsprint producers Kimberley Clark and Consolidated Bathurst, which have raised their prices from $468 a tonne to $500 a tonne. "We will be in there with the rest of them", Mr Rees added.

On full production, Bowater handles 900,000 tonnes of newsprint a year and last year more than 80 per cent of pretax profits were earned in the United States. Last night, analysts were running their slide rules over Bowater to asses whether the company was due for a re-rating.

The surge in the Bowater price was mainly responsible for the rise in the *FT* Index, which ended the day 5.2 up at 695.0

American investers were quick of the mark in Thomas Tilling yesterday after the thumbs-up from the OFT on BTR's £500m bid. But dealers are discounting the prospect of a counter bid from across the water and reckon the arbitragers can make more than enough by just dealing in the shares.

Gilts recovered from a hesitant start replacing falls of £1¼ with rises of a similar amount, despite the pound's loss of 0.1 cent to $1.5790 on the foreign exchange. But yesterday's tender for the new "tap" £1bn of Treasury index-linked convertible stock 1999 with a coupon of 2.5 per cent proved a flop. The Bank of England said that only about half of the stock had been applied for and that all applicants had been allotted in full at £97.50. As a result, dealers were uncertain of how this novel issue would perform in the market when dealings start.

On the bid front, shares of Percy Bilton, the property and construction group, slipped 8p to 270p after Trust Securities £104m bid lapsed. Trust received less than 1 per cent of the acceptances.

Mr Peter Dellar, former chairman of St Georges Laundry before its was taken over by Spring Grove, still had his admirers. Yesterday, a band of them grouped together and bought 1.7 million shares in Charles Baynes through brokers Charlton Seal Dimmock, amounting to 24.2 per cent of the equity. Mr Dellar earlier this week bought a 30 per cent stake in Baynes, Britain's biggest hack-saw manufacturers, and his followers must be hoping he can do a similar job for then at Baynes as he did at St Georges. Baynes closed 9p up at 59p.

After a nervous shakeout this week, shares of Mr Paul Bristol's KCA International rallied yesterday to close 2p up on the day at 47p compared with the year's low of 45p. Hopes are high that Mr Bristol may now be putting the finishing touches to his proposed bid for the group's non-oil interests.

Forward Technology lost ground on news of increased losses and a cut in the dividend. Despite an increase in turnover from £42m to £44m pre-tax losses have grown from £691,000 to £997,000. Shareholders must also go without their dividend. Last year they recieved 3p. Prospects for the first quarter were described as encouraging.

Oil shares recovered from a nervous opening after reporst from Japan that Iran was offering a discount on Opec prices and putting the fragile price agreement in jeopardy. The reports were denied and prices recovered most of their earlier falls. BP ended 2p lighter at 398p, after 388p, Shell a similar figure at 490p, after 480p, but Lasmo lost 10p at 308p.

Among the Australian mining shares, Samantha rose 2 cents to 80 cents after a visit to London by Mr David Muller, Chairman to meet City institutions. Mr Muller said Samantha had discovered encouraging prospects in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. Samantha and its associate Samson own around 70 per cent of the venture.

Shares of the hotel giant Trusthouse Forte fell 3p to 182p on yesterday's report in *The Times* from America that it was embarking on a massive expansion programme, including the opening of 14 new hotel. THF denied the report

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) May 5	Market rates (close) May 5	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.5705-1.5830	$1.5775-1.5785	0.21-0.16c prem	0.46-0.41c prem
Montreal	$1.9250-1.9325	$1.9308-1.9318	0.18-0.08c prem	0.55-0.45c prem
Amsterdam	*4.31-4.34½fl*	*4.33¾-4.34¼fl*	*2-1½c prem*	*5-4½c prem*
Brussels	76.30-77.77f	76.90-77.77f	5c prem-5c disc	5c prem-5c disc
Copenhagen	13.67-13.74k	13.73-13.74k	20prem-140ore disc	220-420ore disc
Dublin	1.2150-1.2220p	1.2207-1.2217p	54-66p disc	145-163p disc
Frankfurt	3.83-3.86m	3.84½-3.85½m	2-1½pf prem	5-4½pf prem
Lisbon	154-157e	154½-156½e	610-1875c disc	1210-2790c disc
Madrid	214.50-215.75p	215.55-215.75p	205-310c disc	525-650c disc
Milan	2285-2297lr	2294-2296lr	9½-12½lr disc	35-38lr disc
Oslo	11.15-11.20k	11.18¼-11.19¼k	265-455ore disc	1015-1210ore disc
Paris	*11.57-11.62f*	*11.60½-11.61½f*	*3-4½c disc*	*14¼-16¼c disc*
Stockholm	11.75-11.81k	11.80-11.81k	55-165ore disc	160-315ore disc
Tokyo	368-373y	370½-371½y	1.41-1.22y prem	3.60-3.31y prem
Vienna	27.00-27.20sch	27.12-27.17sch	13-11gro prem	35-30gro prem
Zurich	3.22-3.25f	3.23¼-3.24¼f	1½-1¼c prem	4½-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 84.3 down 0.2

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 10¼ Low 10

Week Fixed: 10⅛-10

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9⅞	2 months	9¾
3 months	9¾	3 months	9⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	10¹⁄₃₂-10	1 month	10⅜
2 months	9⅞-9¹³⁄₁₆	2 months	10¼
3 months	9²⁹⁄₃₂-9²⁵⁄₃₂	3 months	10⁷⁄₁₆
6 months	9²¹⁄₃₂-9¹¹⁄₃₂	6 months	10⅛

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	10⅞-10⅝	7 months	10⅛-9⅞
2 months	10¾-10½	8 months	10⅛-9⅞
3 months	10⅝-10¼	9 months	10⅛-10
4 months	10⅝-10¼	10 months	10¼-10
5 months	10¼-10	11 months	10¼-10
6 months	10¼-9⅞	12 months	10¼-10

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	10¹¹⁄₃₂-10¼	6 months	9¹¹⁄₁₆-9⅝
3 months	10-9⅞	12 months	9¹³⁄₁₆-9¾

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	10¼	3 months	10⅛
7 days	10½	6 months	10
1 month	10¼	1 year	10¹⁄₁₆

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12 Close 10¼

1 week	10⅞-10⁹⁄₁₆	6 months	10-9⅞
1 month	10⁵⁄₁₆-10¼	9 months	10¹⁄₁₆-9¹⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	10⅛-10	12 months	10⅛-10

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 10⅛ 6 months 10

Finance House Base Rate 11½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7970-1.8120
Bahrein	0.5920-0.5950
Finland	8.49-8.53
Greece	131-133
Hongkong	10.79-10.83
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4570-0.4600
Malaysia	3.6150-3.6450
Mexico	225-250
New Zealand	2.3680-2.3980
Saudi Arabia	5.4220-5.4820
Singapore	3.2850-3.3150
South Africa	1.6980-1.7130

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.2933-1.2943
+ Canada	1.2238-1.2241
Netherlands	2.7465-2.7480
Belgium	48.73-48.80
Denmark	8.70-8.71
West Germany	*2.4405-2.4415*
Portugal	97.00-98.50
Spain	136.40-136.50
Italy	1454-1455
Norway	7.0825-7.0900
France	7.3575-7.3625
Sweden	7.4780-7.4830
Japan	234.85-235.10
Austria	17.18-17.20
Switzerland	2.0485-2.0500

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8171-0.8174

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 8⅞-8⅝; seven days, 8½-8⅜; one month, 8⅞-8¾; three months, 8¹¹⁄₁₆-8⁹⁄₁₆; six months, 8⅞-8¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $435 (an ounce); pm, $433.75 close, $434.50.

*Krugerrand** (per coin): $447-448.5 (£283-284).

*Sovereigns** (new): $102-103 (£64.50-65.75).

* Excludes VAT

هكذا من الاهل

Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.0 up 5.2
FT Gilts: 81.98 down 0.02
FT All Share: 430.88 down 2.44
Bargains: 24,240
Tring Hall USM Index: 170.9 down 0.7
Tokyo: Closed
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 987.29 up 0.65
New York: Dow Jones Average latest 1215.27 up 2.62

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.5790 down 0.1 cent
Index 84.9 down 0.2
DM 3.85 down 0.02
FrF 11.61 down 0.675
Yen 371 down 2.50
Dollar
Index 121.9 down 0.3
DM 2.4410 down 50pts
Gold
$434.50 up $2.25
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold $433.75
Sterling $1.5790

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank $10\frac{1}{8}$-10
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar $8\frac{11}{16}$-$8\frac{13}{16}$
3 month DM $5\frac{1}{4}$-$4\frac{15}{16}$
3 month $15\frac{1}{4}$-$14\frac{3}{4}$
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 6 to May 3, 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

News Int. 223p up47p
Global N. R. £4.75 up 75p
Garner Booth 90p up 11p
T. Tilling 214p up 24p
Bowater 187p up 17p
H. Ingram 35p up 3p
Johnson Group 298p down 35p
Leisure Ind. 350p down 16p
Mercantile Hse. 800p down 15p
Exco 573p down 15p
Saatchi 475p down 15p
Ryl Bk. Scotland 122p down 15p

TODAY

Interims: Anglo-African Finance, Transvaal Cons Land & Exploration
Finals: Ayrshire Metal Prods, Copydex, Evered Hldgs, Fleming Far Eastern, Hallam Grp of Nottingham, Northern Goldsmiths, Save & Prosper Linked Inv (2nd Int), Scottish Ontario Inv Co, Stewarts Enterprise, Tern-Consulate, UEI.
Economic statistics: Unemployment (Apr-Prov), unfilled vacancies (Apr-Prov), Car & Commercial Vehicle Production (Mar-Final)

Back Thatcher, business urged

Business should give firm backing for Mrs Thatcher in her policies, in the next general election, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the Institute of Directors, said yesterday. He was scathing of the alternatives offered by Labour and the SDP/Liberal Alliance.

"Mrs Thatcher has broken the mould of British politics by having the courage and tenacity to face the economic crisis which politicians have shirked for decades – to face it and to beat it.

"At one time it was thought that businessmen would flock to the banner of the SDP/Liberal Alliance. Today it is clear that has not happened," he told the institute's Eastern branch at Peterborough.

● **AGENCY OFFER:** The tender offer for sale of shares in Boasse Massimi Pollitt, the advertising agency, was oversubscribed 2.1 times at the striking price of 315p a share, Morgan Grenfell, merchant bankers, said yesterday.

● **GRANT AID:** *Grants totalling £238,000, equally funded* by the EEC Commission and the Department of Industry, are being made towards the cost of an initial feasibility study for the Disneyland-style theme park called Wonderworld which is planned for Corby, Northamptonshire.

● **TRADING CALL:** Many of the world's economic problems would ease with just a small increase in trade, Sir Campbell Fraser, President of the CBI, said yesterday. "Free and fair trade" within and without trading organizations in Europe was the best bet, he said.

● **BREW UP:** Beer production in March was 3.1bn bulk barrels, a 1.7 per cent increase on the same month last year, said the Brewers Society.

● **SALES RISE:** US car sales rose 14.3 per cent last month to 763,188 units from 667,630 a year earlier.

Wall St mixed as blue chips fall

New York (Reuter) – Stock prices turned mixed yesterday, with blue chip prices turning lower.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 1.35 points at 1211.30 after reaching 1217.49.

Volume was about 12 million shares. The Dow Jones transportation index rose 4.68 points to 536.05. On Wednesday the index gained more than 15 points.

The broader market continued to improve, however, with advancing issues outpacing losers by about nine to four.

One component of the Dow is **Eastman Kodak**, which fell $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $76\frac{1}{4}$. Kodak has been the volume leader since reporting disappointing first-quarter profits on Wednesday.

Consolidated Edison was the second most active, unchanged at $22\frac{5}{8}$.

Mr Ralph Acampora, of Kidder Peabody said: "We're going to have a correction one of these days, but I don't think we are going to get it here."

Linfood bid verdict next week

By Our Financial Staff

The verdict on Linfood Holdings takeover bid for food group, Fitch Lovell, is expected from the Monopolies and Mergers commission next Thursday.

Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, will announce whether the bid should be allowed to proceed and whether Fitch Lovell should be allowed to go ahead with its controversial £35m sale of its Key Markets supermarket chain to Linfood.

The early indications are that Lord Cockfield will decide that the Linfood bid for Fitch is not against the public interest. However, the decision on the sale of the 106 Key Markets stores to Safeway is the more important of the two.

If Mr Geoffrey Hankins, chief executive of Fitch, is allowed to conclude the Key Markets deal Linfood is unlikely to pursue its takeover ambitions for what would fundamentally be a food manufacturing, rather than a food retailing group.

When Mr Alec Monk, chairman of Linfood, launched his £87m takeover bid for Fitch last September a key element in the proposed deal was the proposed merger of the Key Market supermarkets with Linfood's Gateway stores chain.

But Mr Hankins since taking over as chief executive of Fitch Lovell last October has frustrated Linfood's takeover ambitions by agreeing the sale of Key Markets, a chain of 104 West Gunner butcher shops in the West Country, and the Fitch poultry business for more than £40m.

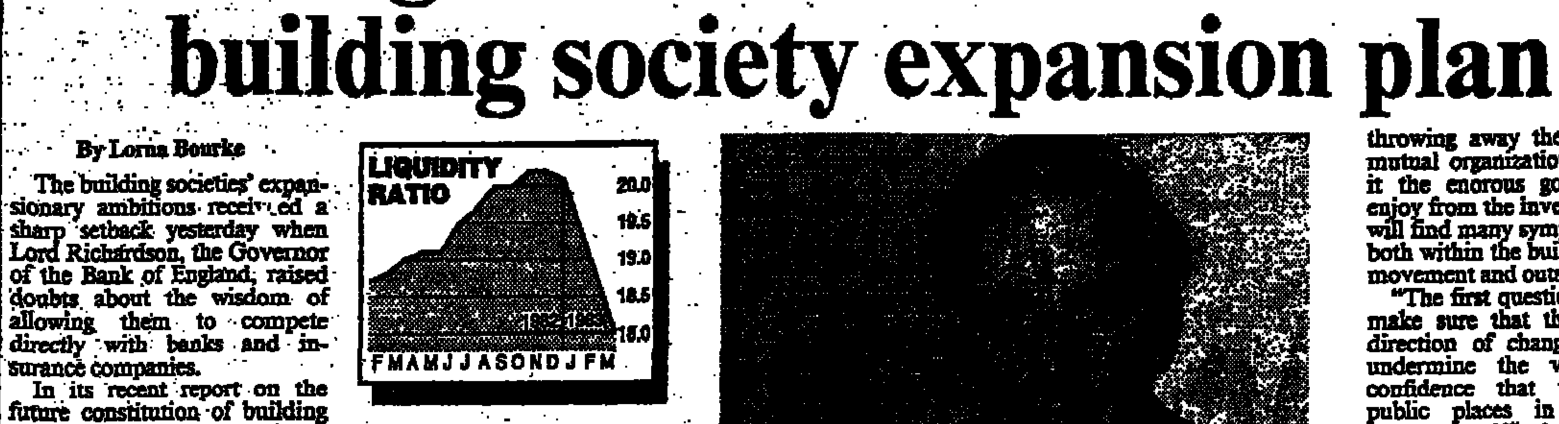
In future Fitch will concentrate on food manufacture, specialist foods and frozen food distribution.

The deals all depend on winning Department of Trade approval and also on an extraordinary meeting of Fitch Lovell shareholders to be held on May 20.

Richardson sceptical on ambitions for banking and insurance

Bank governor raises doubts over building society expansion plan

By Lorna Bourke





Lord Richardson (right): need to retain public goodwill

The building societies' expansionary ambitions received a sharp setback yesterday when Lord Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, raised doubts about the wisdom of allowing them to compete directly with banks and insurance companies.

In its recent report on the future constitution of building societies, the Building Societies Association called for a wide range of new powers – most notably the freedom to set up or acquire banks, insurance and finance companies.

While accepting the need for some of the reforms, Lord Richardson was sceptical about the more radical proposals.

"Acquisition of such subsidiaries would carry wider implications which are perhaps not fully set out in the report. The important point is that the Bank (of England) would require the parent, in the intersts of the subsidiary's depositors, to support the subsidiary in case of need, more fully than is required by the law of limited liability.

"No parent which itself took deposits and depended upon a creditworthy name could expect to walk away from a subsidiary in trouble without risking a loss of confidence on the part of its own depositors", he said.

"There must clearly be limits to what any of you can do, especially in the diversification of your assets, while continuing to call yourselves building societies and to retain the public goodwill now attaching to that name", he told delegates at the BSA conference yesterday.

Earlier, Lord Richardson had given the societies considerable encouragement for their proposals in housing finance. "It is not surprising that as specialists in the field societies should wish to innovate in this way and provided that any risks involved are fully appreciated, it would seem appropriate for present legislative curbs in this area to be relaxed".

He also said that it was important for the Societies to be able to compete for deposits and that the restrictions on unsecured lending were unnecessarily hampering the societies expansion. "Legislative change allowing societies some flexibility would seem appropriate." he said

His message to the societies, that they should be wary of throwing away their status as mutual organizations and with it the enorous goodwill they enjoy from the investing public, will find many sympathetic ears both within the building society movement and outside.

"The first question is how to make sure that the pace and direction of change does not undermine the very special confidence that the general public places in you. The particular difficulty is that a rapid and wide-ranging diversification by only a few societies could affect the public image of the whole movement", he said.

Lord Richardson's comments come after a warning this week from Mr Alan Cumming, chairman of the Building Societies Association, that home loan rates may have to rise soon, if bank base rates do not come down.

And the latest edition of the BSA bulletin reveals how hard pressed the societies are, with liquidity falling from its December high of 20.1 per cent to 18 per cent by the end of March.

City Comment

Harrods: war or peace?

If Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, a chief executive of Lonrho, is not bored with the continuing battle between his company and House of Fraser, then he must be the only party in the country who is not. But yet again, *later today*, a score of institutions will trek to Glasgow to cast their votes

For this morning, shareholders in House of Fraser have to decide whether or not to support Lonrho's plan that Harrods be floated off as a separate company.

This saga would never have happened had the Monopolies Commission not blocked Lonrho when it tried to bid for the whole House of Fraser group, thus leaving it locked in with a near 30 per cent stake which it could neither increase, nor, House of Fraser being the dismal performer it is, sell at a profit. The whole demerger plan, whatever its merits – and they are considerable – *came up only* because it offered a way for Lonrho to get out of its corner.

Shareholders in the previous rounds have supported the House of Fraser board, but even the most loyal of them have to admit that their loyalty has been rewarded with neither sparkling profits nor sparkling share price.

Today, they ought to question seriously whether this loyalty is in their own best interests, for to vote down the demerger is to vote for a continuation of the war; and that in turn makes it more likely that the lack-lustre performance will continue. So whether they like it or not, the institutional shareholders are as locked in as Lonrho. The way they vote *today ought* to reflect this reality even if they do not like it.

Exco in £9m unit trust deal

By Jonathan Clare

Exco International the international moneybroker has taken control of Gartmore Investment Management, the unit trust group, in a £9.4m deal with British & Commonwealth Shipping.

Exco will pay in shares for the 50.1 per cent stake it is taking in GIM, but British & Commonwealth will retain a 49.9 per cent holding through its Cayzer, Gartmore subsidiary.

The deal also includes a 42.5 per cent stake to be taken by Exco in a new venture capital company *formed by Cayzer*, Gartmore and managed by GIM.

The issue of 1.6 million new Exco shares will increase British & Commonwealth's stake in the international moneybroker from about 16 per cent to 18.3 per cent.

But British & Commonwealth's stake in Telerate, the financial information service, where Exco also has a large controlling stake, held by GIM, will be transferred to Cayzer, Gartmore with some other investments before the *deal* goes through.

GIM controls investment trusts and other investment schemes with total funds of more than £1,200m.

Last year, it made profits of £1.8m and it has net assets worth about £4.4m

Mr John Gunn, Exco's managing director, said GIM intends to enter the US market under aggressive management to tap investment funds which are rarely placed outside the country.

Jobs threat blocks bid for Johnson

By Our Financial Staff

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission has again saved Johnson Group Cleaners from takeover by banning two possible bids from Sunlight Service Group and Initial.

The commission made its unanimous decision mainly on the grounds of competition but also took into account the likely loss of between 200 and 400 jobs.

Sketchley made an approach in 1977 to Johnson but dropped its bid when it was referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Last year, Sunlight mounted a £35m cash and shares bid for Johnson. Soon after, Initial, a subsidiary of BET, said it would bid but without revealing formal terms.

But the commission decided that a takeover by either company would give them a much larger market share in an industry which *is* already dominated by just six firms. Had Initial acquired Johnson, it could have achieved a 70 per cent market share in certain areas. A successful takeover by Sunlight would have given it dominance in London.

The aspect of job losses was particularly sensitive because they would be concentrated in the hard-pressed Merseyside area.

The commission's worries centred on the workwear and linen rental sides of the laundry business rather than the dry cleaning side.

It says mergers would result in the loss of a potentially strong competitor. Yesterday, Mr John Crockatt, Johnson's chairman, said the defence against the bids had cost almost £300,000 to the end of December with the final figure likely to be higher. Next week, he will go to the United States to explore possible acquisitions which had to be put off ten months ago.

Johnson's share price fell 30p to 303p on the news

Boom continues at National Freight

By Andrew Cornelius

The 10,000 employees and pensioners who took part in Britain's largest management buyout of the National Freight Corporation fourteen months ago have seen their £1 shares more than treble to £3.20.

The corporation's board is now recommending a second interim dividend of 5p a share for the 24 weeks to March 19, which brings the total dividends paid on each £1 shares since the buyout to 22p a share. This means that an employee with the average holding of 700 shares is nearly £1,700 better off – on paper at least – than before the £53m buyout of the largest haulage and distribution company in the country was arranged in February 1982.

The corporation's interim digures show that the shareholding employees have every reason to be pleased. Trading turnover is running at about 9 per cent higher than it was in the corresponding pre-buyout period last year at £257m. Pretax profits for the period stand at £3.9m again ahead of *last year, although no corre*sponding figures are available.

Mr James Watson, the finance director of the corporation, said that the second quarter of the year which includes Christmas and New Year holidays, is traditionally the weakest trading period. But, he said, the group is performing ahead of a target which itself is significantly higher than that achieved last year.

New contracts have been won from Whitbread, Carreras, Rothman, and Birds Eye and the 300 redundancies announced over the past six months have been balanced by an almost equal number of recruitments to leave the workforce at the pre-buyout level of 24,000.

The board also plans to issue 600,000 new shares this year, which will have the effect of diluting the value of the existing shares by about 4 per cent. This follows a one-for-one share split in April which doubled the number of shares in issue to 15 million and means that original shareholders now own two shares worth £1.60p each; instead of one of the original shares valued at £3.20p.

The basis for allocating the new existing shares will be *determined by the NFC board* later this month. The allocations will be made on one of the four occasions in the year when trading in the shares takes place.

Tax victory for pension funds

By Our Financial Staff

The Government will introduce legislation to exempt pension funds from tax on transactions in financial futures Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday.

But the success of the pension funds in pressing their case on this issue may lead to arguements from other commodity markets that similar concessions be granted to dealings in their contracts.

For the moment, however, the Government is firm that the new ruling will be restricted only to pension fund involvement in financial futures.

Answering a Parliamentary question, Mr Brittan said: "I accept the case for a change in the present law to bring the tax treatment of transactions by pension funds in financial futures into line with that of other pension fund investments."

The problem has been that while profits from transactions by funds in the stock market have been tax exempt, the law on financial futures has been unclear. Pension funds have held back from the London International Financial Futures Market (LIFFE).

Woolworth names second top man

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

The other half of a key two-man executive team whose job will be to turn round the Woolworth stores chain was anounced yesterday – Mr Colin Brown, a *40-year-old* Scot who is deputy managing director of Makro Cash and Carry, the United Kingdom subsidiary of one of the world's largest wholesalers.

The recruiting of Mr Richard Harker, operations manager of the Asda superstores chain, was announced last week. Both he and Mr Brown join Woolworth Holdings board as executive directors and would be in the running for eventual choice of chief executive.

Mr John Beckett, Woolworth Holdings chairman, said yesterday: "Mr Brown *will* greatly strengthen our team and will play an important role in reviving Woolworth's position in the high street."

Various options are being considered for restructuring the Woolworth stores operation. A final decision on the precise role of the two new directors will depend on these considerations and discussions with them, said Mr Beckett.

But there is increasing speculation that Mr Brown will run the bigger stores, around 100; while Mr Harker takes on some 850 medium-size and smaller ones. The B & Q DIY chain will remain a separate entity.

Salaries of around £70,000 each are believed to be involved in the new appointments but performance-related bonuses could take this well over £100,000.

Freeze on Hunt firms

By Our Financial Staff

Wide-ranging court orders, freezing funds, and properties and securing bank accounts of 20 companies formerly controlled by missing financier Keith Hunt, were made by a judge yesterday.

Mr Justice Harman, in the High Court, in London also granted applications by the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator of five other Hunt companies, for "search and seize" orders against all 20 companies.

The "search and seize" orders permit solicitors instruced by the Official Receiver to enter any premises of the companies which they have reason to believe are "owned, occupied or under the control of the defendant companies or servants, agents or directors."

Last week, the Official Receiver was appointed provisional lifquidator of five Hunt companies, including Exchange Securities & Commodities, after the Secretary of State for Trade presented petitions to wind them up "in the public interest."

The orders made yesterday, at the first hearing to be held in open court, were similar to orders granted last week in private.

Murdoch bids for profit

By Michael Prest

News Corporation, Mr Rupert Murdoch's Australian *master company, has bid for all* the shares in News International, the British subsidiary all of whose ordinary shares it already owns, by offering 225p for each of the outstanding special dividend shares.

The offer was made yesterday after purchases worth £6m in the market had taken News Corporation's holding of the special dividend shares from 50 per cent to 77 per cent.

News International publishes *The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun*, and the *News of the World*. A move to take over the remaining special dividend shares had been widely expected since this class of share was *created during a capital reorga*nization in 1980.

But as the market realized that a full bid for the shares was under way the price rose from 176p to touch 235p. The offer for the remaining 23 per cent in other hands is contingent on approval by British and Australian authorities.

The capital reorganization of three years ago gave News Corporation full voting control over News International but did not entitle it to all dividends. News International is the biggest profit earner controlled by News Corporation.

Budget changes stimulate North Sea activity

BP go-ahead for Andrew field

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

British Petroleum and an oil company consortium led by Phillips Petroleum, the American group, have decided to develop the Andrew field, 120 miles north east of Aberdeen. The move provides concrete evidence of the upturn in North Sea development activity forecast by the Government.

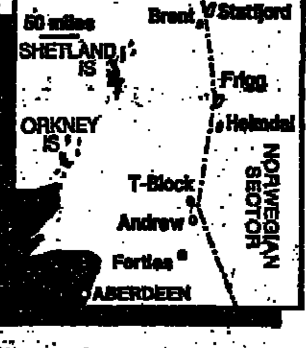
Mr Peter Walters, BP's chairman, said at the company's annual general meeting yesterday that the companies hoped to announce development plans shortly. The decision to go ahead would be "a direct result" of the North Sea tax concessions announced in the Budget in March, he said.

Mr Walters also confirmend that BP intends to go ahead with the development of the South-east Forties field, a separate discovery near BP's major North Sea asset, the Forties field. The company is also bringing forward its revolutionary Single Well Oil Production System, a specially *designed mobile drilling ship* which will be able to mop up oil from a number of small discoveries.

Although South-east Forties is one of three North Sea discoveries which have been expected to be developed for some time, the development of Andrew will be seized on by the Government as evidence of the "boom" in offshore activity which ministers have been forecasting since the Budget.

The Andrew field was first discovered in 1974, and with reserves unofficially estimated at 140 million barrels, has always been a "marginal" field. BP said yesterday that the abolition of the oil royalty and the doubling of tax-exempt production allowance in the Budget had made it a commercial prospect again.

However company experts have still not decided on a final scheme for developing the field,



whether for example to use a convetional fixed steel platform or a floating production system.

Detailed development plans are unlikely to be submitted and approved much before the end of the year, with first production impossible before about 1988.

The field is split between two North Sea blocks, one wholly owned by BP and the other by the Phillips group, which includes ENI, Petrofina, Lasmo and Imperial Continental Gas. A unitization agreement between the various companies hs not yet been agreed.

Despite welcoming the Budget changes, *Mr Walters made* a plea for further changes in the tax system, particularly the high levels of tax on existing fields which are "ring-fenced" and therefore cannot be offset by spending in other parts of the North Sea. These caused "very real problems".

● Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday that Britain would maintain informa contacts with key Opec minsiters, but ruled out any formal links with the organization. Speaking at the end of a five-day tour of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, Mr Lawson said he was confident oil prices would hold.

● **TAKEOVER:** The oil field equipment manufacturer Burgear International, of Belfast, which was put into receivership on March 31, is to be purchased by the Dolphin Oilfield Supply Company, of Aberdeen, securing the existing 120 jobs.

Bilton bid failure blamed on trustees

By Jeremy Warner

Trust Securities' £100m bid for Percy Bilton the property company was allowed to lapse yesterday after a tiny acceptance level of only 5,000 shares or under 0.01 per cent of the capital.

Mr Peter Jones, Trust Securities' chairman, yesterday blamed the failure of the bid on the position of some of the Bilton family trustees who account for about 40 per cent of the company's shares.

Mr Jones said: "One trustee in particular refused to meet us or consider our offer which he said would be accepted only over his dead body. This blocked the whole family holding despite the considerable support we got from some other trustees."

"Many shareholders did not accept because they were waiting to see which way the family shareholding went."

Mr Jones also said that his bid had been affected by Bilton's attempt to discredit both himself and his company.

"Bilton never produced an asset valuation and there are some very serious questions that have to be asked," he said.

But a spokesmann for S. G. Warburg Bilton's merchant bank advisors, said: "We certainly were not aware that any of the family trustees were sympathetic to this bid. There is no compulsion on a company to produce an up to date asset valuation."

INVESTOR S NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sandy McLachlan

BTR bid escapes Monopolies scrutiny

BTR has found itself an unexpected ally in its bid for Thomas Tilling in the shape of the Office of Fair Trading.

It was on its advice that this enormous conglomerate bid was not referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, seemingly on the ground that the OFT has not been given any firm directions on conglomerate mergers. Also, by implication, it sees no *prima facie* reason for the commission to judge between the relative management abilities of the warring parties.

Tilling's defence document, together with the announcement that the bid is not to be referred, pushed the shares up from 189 to 214p yesterday. It is not a straight market battle with "devil take the hindmost" and the present share price is in line with our forecast yesterday that: a. BTR will win in the end and it will end up paying more than 220p a share.

For investors directly involved, that is obviously the most important issue at stake. In more general terms, one has to question the logic of the official policy on mergers.

After lengthy discussion the Monopolies Commission has decided that the UK cleaning industry should remain cleaner than clean by coming out against a bid from either Sunlight or Initial for Johnson Group.

Just a couple of days ago, Lord Cockfield, Secretary of State for Trade, overruled the OFT recommendation that the Sotheby's bid should not be referred and, ironically, this £60m bid for a British Insitituion goes to the commission, while a £600m bid for a sizable chunk of British industry goes free.

It does not seem unreasonable to suggest that the biggest-ever takeover bid in Britain should be given the once-over (or rather the twice-over) by someone who is not directly involved, if only to set some ground rules about "conglomerates". That is in spite of the fact that most of our major companies are already conglomerates anyway.

Coming back to Tilling. The only sensible advice that anyone could offer to Tilling shareholders is to stand firm and wait for BTR's reply to their company's extraordinary profit forecast. The only downside potential would be if BTR pulled out and, with tacit official approval, that is virtually inconceivable.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND SHARE PRICE
DATASTREAM
140 130 120 110 100 90 80
RELATIVE TO FT/A ALL SHARE INDEX
MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR

Royal Bank of Scotland

Royal Bank of Scotland
Pretax profit £30.9m (£43.1m)
Stated earnings 9.6p (14.5p)
Net interim dividend 3p (2.8p)
Share pnce 122p, down 15p
Yield 8.1%

Royal Bank of Scotland has followed the hallowed clearing bank tradition of raising the dividend as profits fall. In most other respects the results are disappointing, with pretax profits down by 28 per cent to £31m and well below expectations.

The rise in bad and doubtful debt provisions is a main reason for this. The group has allowed £24.5m in the latest half compared with £14.2m in the same period a year ago, and £16.6m in the preceding half.

The increase in provisions has been broadly spread between the Scottish bank and Williams & Glyn's and reflects the continuing problems with corporate customers at home and overseas. The bank does not see much sign of the pressure easing on the corporate sector nor of the much talked of economic recovery.

The poor performance from the associate, Lloyds & Scottish, which contributed only £1.2m compared with £6.3m in the same period a year ago, has also depressed group profits.

However, these factors go only part of the way to explaining the drop in profits, which have been inflated by a £4m profit on property sales and £1.1m of profits on the sale of investments.

The group has been hit badly on the domestic side and has suffered from the change in its deposit mix as well as the upsurge in interest rates during its first half.

With current account deposits continuing to decline as a proportion of the sterling base, the group has had to fund a higher proportion of its book with funds priced at maket-related rates.

This alone has squeezed margins and the rise in money market interest rates made matters worse.

One bright spot has been the foreign exchange side wich contributed to a good rise in other operating income from £44m to £53m.

However, net interest income has been almost static, staff expenses are up by 9.8 per cent and it is also hard to resist the conclusion that the group may have been losing some market share considering the lack of growth in net interest income.

Assuming a lower bad debt charge in the second half, the group could make about £80m for the year compared with £91m.

The new management deserves a decent interval to prove itself but there are still more questions than answers hanging over the group, which accounts for the 15p drop in the share price to 122p.

Sound Diffusion

Sound Diffusion
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £3.25m (£1.59m)
Stated earnings 6.67p (3.56p)
Turnover £9.01m (£6.67m)
Net/final dividend 0.8694p (0.7245p)
Share price 266p up 4p. Yeald 0.47)

The share price of Sound Diffusion, the Hove electronic engineering group, has more than doubled over the last year. Out performing both the electrical index and the market as a whole.

The shares stand on a minuscule yield of under 0.5 per cent and sell at 40 times, hardly-taxed, historic earnings.

The reasons for this rating have started to emerge. Last year pre-tax profits more than doubled to £3.25m and brokers expect them at least to double in the next two years and continue rising.

There has been a big rise in orders, the company said yesterday. New rental business, £850,000 of which was achieved last year, is more than double that of a year ago and the company appears confident of achieving at least £1.7m from this source in 1983.

Athough the fancy rating looks justified, the shares could underperform the index over the next year, despite the buoyant outlook and the sweatener of a one-for-two script issue.

Even if it proves only temporary, the abatement in the cross-channel ferry price war is for the moment doing wonders for the profits of **European Ferries.** *Returns from the shipping division rose from a price-war depressed £1.9m in 1981 to £12.8m last year, more than making up for the sharp decline in banking and property profits. The group pretax profit was left £3.2m higher at £30.7m. Harbour profits should benefit from better volumes while property returns will be boosted by some significant sales.*

Hawley in £14m rights issue after profit rise

By Michael Clark

Mr Michael Ashcroft, chairman of Hawley the services group, has never been one to miss chances and yesterday he demonstrated this by announcing terms of a £14.4m rights issue – just days after announcing a leap of 86 per cent in pretax profits to a record £5.5m.

The terms are on the basis of one new share for every four held at 146p a share. But news of the cash only served to deflate Hawley's high-riding share price which ended the day 11p to 167p. The 10.2 million new shares will not rank for the final dividend of 2.2p gross just announced.

Mr Ashcroft said that the rights was needed after the group's recent expansion programme. "This puts the whole group on an even footing. We now have cash in hand everywhere", Mr Ashcroft said.

Hawley hope to spend £2.5m of the proceeds from the rights on taking up its own entitlement to Electro-Protectives £10m rights issue, which reduces Hawley's grip to just over 50 per cent.

The rest will pay off debts leaving cash in hand of £2m.

Mr Ashcroft has already expressed his desire to make further inroads into the US where Electro-Protectives, Hawley's biggest profits earner, continues to expand and is now the fifth largest security group in the US.

The terms of the rights issue fail to give a profits forecast for the present year after three years of strong growth, which has seen profits jump from £900,000 to this week's figure of £5.5m and assets leap from 48p to 210p.

Mr Ashcroft added: "I don't think we really need any profits forecast. There are enough brokers doing that for us".

Hawley's own brokers Capel-Cure Myers yesterday promptly jumped on the bandwagon easily exceeding earlier estimates from Scrimgeour Kenp Gee, Grenfell & Colegrave and L. Messel. They are looking for almost doubled profits in the present year of £11.5m.

Since Mr Ashcroft took over at Hawley, the group's trading base has grown considerably. As well as the amusement side of the business the group is also involved in double glazing, home improvements, and security. The next move could be to float off Provincial on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Dividend up at Caparo

By Victor Felstead

Caparo Industries' pretax profits climbed to £1.21m in 1982, almost trebling the previous year's £419,000, which includes nine months for C.M.T. The net dividend a share is being raised from 1.0p to 1.25p; however, earnings per share are down from 5.28p to 4.63p.

Turnover expanded from £39.12m to £52.41m. The board is confident that further improvement in earnings will allow dividend growth to continue.

Caparo's group composition will change significantly in 1963 with the takeover and restructuring of E. Austin and Sons and the proposed offer for Barton Group.

WALL STREET

	May 4	May 3		May 4	May 3		May 4	May 3
AMF Inc	16¼	15¾	Fst Intrst Bncp	38¼	38¼	Polaroid	31⅛	31½
AMR	28½	28¾	Fst Penn Corp	7	7	PPG Ind	63½	64⅝
Allied Chem	46⅞	46⅝	Ford	49⅝	49⅛	Procter Gamble	59½	59⅝
Allied Stores	45¼	44½	GAF Corp	18⅜	18⅝	Pub Ser El & Gas	24	24
Allis Chalmers	15⅛	14½	GTE Corp	44½	43⅞	Raytheon	49⅝	49⅝
Alcoa	33⅝	32¾	Gen Dynamics	50½	49⅝	RCA Corp	26¼	26⅜
Amax Inc	28¼	27⅞	Gen Electric	110½	110	Republic Steel	23¼	23⅝
Amerada Hess	26⅜	26⅝	Gen Foods	45⅛	45⅝	Reynolds Ind	55	53½
Am Brands	54⅝	54	Gen Mills	54½	55	Reynolds Metal	32	30¼
Am Broadcast	64	63½	Gen Motors	68⅝	68	Rockwell Int	56⅝	57
Am Can	38¼	37⅞	Gen Pub Util NY	8⅝	8⅝	Royal Dutch	43⅝	44¼
Am Cyanamid	45	45⅝	Gen Tire	36½	34½	Safeways	27½	27⅝
Am Elec Power	19	19⅛	Genesco	7⅞	7⅞	St Regis Paper	33	32⅞
Am Home	46⅝	45⅞	Georgia Pacific	29½	29½	Santa Fe Ind	28	27¼
Am Motors	8¼	8	Getty Oil	66	66	SCM	36½	35½
Am Nat Res	34	34½	Gillette	47½	47	Schlumberger	49½	46⅝
Am Standard	30¾	30¼	Goodrich	41⅜	41⅜	Scott Paper	24	23½
Am Telephone	67½	67½	Goodyear	33⅝	33⅝	Seagram	31⅛	30⅝
Armco Steel	17	17⅛	Gould Inc	33⅞	34	Sears Roebuck	40¼	40¼
Asarco	38⅝	38⅝	Grace	44⅝	43⅝	Shell Oil	42⅝	41⅜
Ashland Oil	33½	33⅝	Gt Atlic & Pacific	11⅜	11¼	Shell Trans	31½	31¼
Atlantic Richfield	45¾	46¼	Greyhound	22⅛	22⅜	Signal Co	30⅝	30
Avco	31⅜	30⅞	Grumman Corp	58⅜	58⅝	Singer	27½	27⅝
Avon Products	32⅞	31¼	Gulf Oil	34¼	34½	Sony	15⅝	15½
Bankers Tst NY	47½	47	Gulf & West	26	26⅜	Sth Cal Edison	37½	37⅛
Bank of America	24½	24½	Heinz H. J.	47¼	47¼	Southern Pacific	60⅝	59⅝
Bank of Boston	45¼	45¼	Hercules	38	37	Sperry Corp	36⅝	35⅝
Bank of NY	58⅝	58½	Honeywell	118⅝	117¾	Std Oil Californ	38¼	39⅝
Beatrice Foods	27¼	27¼	IC Inds	41⅜	41½	Std Oil Indiana	47¼	47½
Bethlehem Steel	21⅜	21⅛	Ingersoll	46	46	Std Oil Ohio	47⅞	48⅛
Boeing	38	37⅞	Inland Steel	30¼	30⅝	Sterling Drug	26⅝	26⅝
Boise Cascade	44⅝	43¾	IBM	118½	115⅝	Stevens J. P	23⅝	23⅝
Borden	54	53¾	Int Harvester	11⅜	11	Sun Comp	37⅞	39¼
Borg Warner	46⅝	44⅞	INCO	14½	14¼	Teledyne	143⅝	141⅛
Bristol Myers	78¾	78¾	Int Paper	55	55	Tenneco	37½	37⅞
BP	25	25⅞	Int Tel Tel	39⅝	40	Texaco	36	36⅝
Burlington Ind	36⅝	36	Irving Bank	50⅝	50½	Texas East Corp	57½	56¼
Burlington Nthn	81⅞	77⅞	Jewel Co	47	47	Texas Inst	146¼	144⅛
Burroughs	50¼	50¼	Jim Walter	43⅝	43⅝	Texas Utilities	25⅜	25¼
Campbell Soup	44¼	44½	Johnson & John	50⅜	50⅝	Textron	31⅞	31⅝
Canadian Pacific	37	36½	Kaiser Alumin	17⅞	17⅞	TWA	31⅛	30⅝
Caterpillar	46⅝	45⅞	Kerr McGee	32½	32¾	Travelers Corp	32¼	31⅛
Celanese	61⅛	61	Kimberly Clark	86¼	85¼	TRW Inc	71¼	70⅝
Central Soya	15⅜	15⅛	K Mart	33¼	31⅞	UAL Inc	34	32⅞
Chase Manhat	57⅞	57⅜	Kroger	38¼	37⅞	Union Carbide	63½	61⅛
Chem Bank NY	53¾	53¾	L T V Corp	15	14½	Union Oil Calif	34⅝	34½
Chrysler	26¼	25¼	Litton	62½	63¼	Un Pacific Corp	57¼	56¼
Citicorp	44½	44¼	Lockheed	114½	113½	Uniroyal	13¼	13⅝
Clark Equip	30¼	30½	Lucky Stores	21⅛	21⅛	United Brands	11⅞	11¼
Coca Cola	55	55½	Manuf Hanover	40¼	50	US Industries	16	15½
Colgate	23⅝	23⅞	Manville Cp	15⅝	14	US Steel	23	22½
CBS	73½	72¾	Mapco	23⅝	23⅛	Utd Technol	70	70⅝
Columbia Gas	28¾	28½	Marine Midland	27⅞	27⅛	Wachovia	41⅛	41⅛
Combustion Eng	33⅝	33⅝	Martin Marietta	54	53½	Warner Commun	28⅛	27⅛
Comwlth Edison	27	26¾	McDonnell	59½	60⅝	Warner Lambert	32⅝	32¼
Cons Edison	23⅛	22⅞	Mead	26⅝	26⅝	Wells Fargo	35⅝	35⅝
Cons Foods	43⅞	44⅜	Merck	93½	93⅝	Westinghse Elec	46	44½
Cons Power	20½	20½	Minnesota Mng	81⅛	83⅝	Weyerhauser	38⅝	38⅝
Continental Grp	42⅝	42⅞	Mobil Oil	30¼	30⅝	Whirlpool	52¼	52⅛
Control Data	47⅞	47½	Monsanto	89½	89	Woolworth	33⅝	33⅝
Corning Glass	77½	75⅝	Morgan J. P.	80⅝	80⅝	Xerox Corp	47¼	46⅝
CPC Intal	37⅞	37¼	Motorola	108	105⅝	Zenith	19	18⅝
Crane	28⅝	29	NCR Corp	115⅛	114⅝			
Crocker Intl	32¼	31⅛	NL Industries	16⅝	16⅝			
Crown Zeller	32½	32⅞	Nabisco	37⅞	37¼	**Canadian Prices**		
Dart & Kraft	72¾	73½	Nat Distillers	28¼	28⅝	Abitibi	22	21⅛
Deere	36⅝	36⅝	Nat Med Ent	29¼	29¼	Alcan Alumin	35½	36
Delta Air	45	43½	Nat Steel	26⅝	26⅝	Algoma Steel	20	20
Detroit Edison	14⅝	14⅝	Norfolk South	55⅛	54⅞	Bell Telephone	27½	27⅛
Disney	79⅝	78¾	NW Bancorp	32⅝	33	Cominco	49⅝	49⅛
Dow Chemical	32½	32¾	Norton Simon	25½	25⅛	Cons Bathurst	21⅛	21⅛
Dresser Ind	19⅝	18⅞	Occidental Pet	20½	20⅞	Gulf Oil	16⅝	16⅛
Duke Power	23⅝	23½	Ogden	29¼	29¼	Hawker/Sid Can	18⅛	18
Du Pont	46⅝	45⅞	Olin Corp	31⅛	31⅛	Hudson Bay Mm	19½	20⅛
Eastern Air	7⅞	7⅞	Owens-Illinois	34⅛	33⅞	Imasco	38¼	35⅝
Eastman Kodak	79¼	82¼	Pacific Gas Elec	32¼	31⅛	Imperial Oil	35⅝	35¼
Eaton Corp	47	47⅞	Pan Am	5⅝	5½	Int Pipe	27⅞	27½
El Paso Nat Gas	16⅝	16½	Penney J. C.	64½	63⅝	Mass.-Ferguson	6¼	6¼
Esmark	63	63⅝	Pennzoil	38⅜	37⅞	Royal Trust	25⅛	25⅝
Evans P. D.	11⅞	11⅞	Pepsico	38⅝	38½	Seagram	39½	37⅞
Exxon Corp	35½	35¼	Pfizer	88¼	88	Steel Co	26	25½
Fed Dept Stores	60¼	59⅝	Phelps Dodge	31	30⅝	Thomson N 'A'	30½	29⅝
Firestone	21⅞	21⅞	Philip Morris	65	64½	Walker Hiram	24½	24
Fst Chicago	26¼	26¼	Phillips Petrol	34½	35¼	WCT	13⅝	13⅝

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split t Traded. y Unquoted.

APPOINTMENTS

Matheson chief

Mr Rodney Leach is to join Matheson & Co in London as an executive director.

Mr Fraser D. Campell, executive director of the British Linen Bank in charge of the bank's wholly-owned subsidiary Capital Leasing, is to join the bank's corporate finance department. He will remain a director of Capital Leasing. **Mr A. D. Nicol** will become chief executive and director of Capital Leasing.

Dr Stanley Dennison has been named deputy managing director of English Clays Lovering Pochin & Co. He will become managing director when **Sir Alan Dalton** takes over the chairmanship of English China Clays from Lord Aberconway next February.

Mr C. F. Blewett will become a regional director of the Devon and Cornwall regional board of Lloyds Bank on July 1.

Mr John Antill and **Mr Christopher Stanley** are joining the board of the North American Non-Marine Division of Jardine Glanvill.

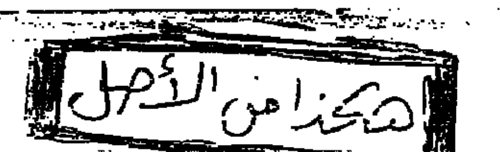
Mr Frank Stansil is the new managing partner of Hacker Young. This came after the appointment of **Mr Stuart Young** as chairman of the BBC. Mr Young remains senior partner.

Mr Peter Gwinnett has been appointed representative and a director of Barclays Tradefinance in Moscow.

Mr W F Morrey has become claims director of British National Insurance Company. He will also be responsible for the North Atlantic Insurance Company activities.

Mr Anthony B Davidsonis to become general manager, special duties of TSB Scotland and **Mr David A McLean** is appointed general manager, retail operations.

Mr K Wright will be company secretary of Ocean Transport & Trading from July 1. Mr Wright is an executive of Ocean. At the same time **Mr P E V Hughes** will become group solicitor but will reamain deputy company secretary.



Fears for the future of Western banking 'based on a misunderstanding'

Time to put the Third World debt threat into perspective

Much of the talk of a Third World debt crisis threatening the Western banking system is exaggerated.

It stems from a misunderstanding in both North and South of the consequences of a return to private commercial lending as the main form of capital flow from rich to poor countries.

The expansion of commercial bank lending to the South, from modest beginnings in the *mid to* late 1960s, has become the main source of external capital for development in the 1970s.

This marks a reversion to the typical 19th and early 20th century source of foreign capital for development – portfolio lending from rich to poor countries. This commercial market had been closed to Third World countries since their widespread defaults in the 1930s.

These defaults were the result and not the cause of the Great *Depression. But the trauma of* these defaults coloured post-war views about the desirability of private flows of capital between countries. The Bretton Woods system was regarded by the then US Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau as the achievement of his lifelong ambition to "drive .. the usurious moneylenders from the temple of international finance".

American banking regulations and the widespread use of exchange controls in Europe – *in the UK until 1979* – limited the access of Third World countries to Western capital markets. Foreign aid was invented to provide an alternative form of capital transfer, and until the 1970s, along with direct foreign investment, provided the major source of foreign capital for development.

Statistics for 6 major borrowers in private capital market

Country	Output growth 1970-80	Export growth 1970-80	Medium term debt service ratio 1981 (a)	Percent bank debt short-term, 1981	cash-flow ratio, 1982 (b)
		(% pa)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Mexico	5.2	13.4	60	42	129
Brazil	8.4	7.5	58	27	122
Venezuela	5.0	–6.7	37	55	95
Thailand	7.2	11.8	17	55	48
Korea	9.5	23.0	16	53	53
Philippines	6.3	7.0	24	53	91

Source: World Development Report 1982, World Bank and overseas Development Institute.

Notes: (a) Interest and principal on medium-term debt in relation to exports of goods and services.

(b) Interest and principal on *all* debt in relation to exports of goods and services.

Long-term debt of non-oil developing countries

	1973	1982
Total external debt	\$97bn	\$505bn
As percentage of output	20	30
As percentage of exports	90	110

Foreign debt as percentage of exports in 1913

Canada	860
South Africa	630
Latin America	520
Australasia	480
Russia	480
India	240
Japan	230
China	220

Sources: IMF and W. A. Lewis: Growth and Fluctuations 1870-1913

Paradoxically, the American banking regulations gave rise to the unregulated, offshore Eurocurrency markets in the 1960s. Most of the bank loans to the *Third World* have been channelled through these markets, based in the 1970s on the massive increase in the Eurocurrency deposits of the surplus OPEC countries.

This reopening of the portfolio market – albeit with shorter maturities than was common in the 19th and early 20th century, and with a larger proportion of sovereign (publicly guaranteed) borrowing – has been advantageous for the Third World.

Unlike foreign aid or direct investment, commercial bank borrowing does not require an intimate relationship between borrower and lender, with all the accompanying misunderstandings and the politicization of economics.

But it is precisely for this reason that dirigistes have always cast a jaundiced eye on all "*unregulated*" *private flows* of capital.

Two fears are widespread about this Eurolending. First, that the current level of Third World debt is too high. Secondly, that as a result borrowers may not be able or willing to continue to meet their debt-servicing obligations, and might decide to repudiate their debts, leading to a collapse of the Western banking system.

It would be foolish to argue that international capital markets are perfect or that all commercial *lending has* been wise. But these fears are exaggerated.

The fears have been fuelled by various statistical ratios between the size of the external debt or the costs of its service to the export earnings or gross domestic product, of particular countries, or the group of non-oil developing countries.

But most of these ratios are meaningless. For as long as a borrower can utilize a foreign loan productively to yield a rate of return at least equal to the real interest *cost of the borrowing*, and can convert the equivalent domestic resources into foreign exchange, the foreign borrowing can pose no problem. Until the past two years of high interest rates, these real interest costs of borrowing were extremely low, and negative in some years.

Secondly, *even if the ratios of* foreign debt, or debt service charges to exports are taken at their face value, by historical standards they are by no means excessive. The ratio of long term debt to exports of non-oil developing countries of 1.1 in 1982 is well below the lowest ratios of 2.2 for China and Japan in 1913 and a fraction of these for Canada and South Africa. There was little talk of a debt crisis then.

The doubling in real terms of the long term debt of the Third World over the past 10 years merely reflects a readjustment in the borrowing countries to the opportunities presented by the rebirth of the international capital market.

There may be more reason to worry about the inability of Third World countries to *increase their export earnings* because of the rising tide of protectionism in the West, but *it should be noted that*, in the 1970s, the major borrowers had no difficulty in increasing their export earnings, or putting the borrowings to productive use, as judged by the growth rates of income.

In the past, the domestic policies of many Third World countries have hindered an expansion of their export earnings, and these have not yet been reformed. But, nevertheless, resisting protectionist pressures in the West is the best means available to help debt servicing.

So far, however, we have been concerned with the long and medium term dept of the Third World. In recent years, some countries – mainly in Latin America – have obtained substantial short term credits from commercial banks.

These are analogous to the overdraft limits which banks offer to their domestic customers. Just as a domestic client would only expect to pay the interest on his overdraft out of current income, repayments of principal on these short term debts are not usually considered to be part of the annual debt servicing costs of Third World debt.

It was the failure of the commercial banks to roll over these short term credits as usual for the major Latin American borrowers which has precipitated their debt "crisis" by creating a short run cash flow problem for these countries.

Perhaps this was an appropriate tactic to use to persuade countries, whose lax domestic financial policies might have created a future debt servicing problem, to put their house in order.

But the short run liquidity crisis precipitated by the commercial banks is in itself no more a signal of the unsoundness of these countries' past borrowings or their future ability to service them than would be the arbitrary withdrawal of an overdraft facility for an otherwise sound commercial business.

If the commercial banks' withdrawal of credit to some of their major borrowers is a belated recognition of the imprudence of some of their past lending, it might require the acceptance of capital losses associated with bad debts which are part of the normal risks of banking, but it would still not justify forcing their debtors into illiquidity.

If, however, it was believed that the consequent threat of default, associated bank failures and their impact on the international banking system would be seen as unacceptable, and would force Western governments to organize a "*bail-out*" *of the commercial* banks, their actions during the last few years can be viewed as being rational.

For the commercial debt *accumulated by the Third* World in the 1970s represents loans made by Opec via the Western commercial banking system. Many are playing on the historical memories of the bank failures during the 1930s. These bank failures, however, were not the cause of the Great Depression – it was the failure of national governments to prevent the collapse in their domestic money supply.

With most depositors in Western countries implicitly or explicitly insured, and assuming their governments do not allow their domestic money supply to shrink, failures of imprudent banks need not have any of the other dire consequences currently being predicted.

Real cost of Euromarket credit to Developing countries

Year	%
1976	2.3
1977	0.6
1978	-1.3
1979	0.1
1980	1.8
1981-82	8.0

Source: Overseas Development Institute, estimates.

In this context, the convergent interests of the imprudent commercial banks, some improvident Third World governments, Opec depositors, and those international agencies which would administer a "bail-out" of the banks, can be seen *to lie in both creating* and proclaiming a debt crisis which threatens the international economy. But there is little reason for Western taxpayers to accept this special pleading.

Deepak Lal

The author is a reader at the London School of Economics.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, [illegible]; £10,000 up to £50,000, [illegible]; £50,000 and over, [illegible].

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)

27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	–	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	152	–	10.0	6.6	–	–
74	57	Airsprung Group	62xd	–	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7
46	29	Armitage & Rhodes	29	–	4.3	14.8	3.5	5.7
326	197	Bardon Hill	326	–	11.4	3.5	13.7	17.2
145	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	145	–	15.7	10.8	–	–
270	210	Cindico Group	210	–	17.6	8.4	–	–
86	50	Deborah Services	50	–	6.0	12.0	3.3	8.9
97½	77	Frank Horsell	96	–	–	–	8.0	8.6
96	75½	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	94½	–	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	–	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2
55	34	George Blair	34	–	–	–	5.9	12.3
100	74	Ind Prec Castings	77	–	7.3	9.5	9.9	12.4
168	100	Isis Conv Pref	168	–	15.7	9.3	–	–
147	94	Jackson Group	147	–	7.5	5.1	4.5	9.4
220	111	James Burrough	220	–	9.6	4.4	16.1	17.9
260	148	Robert Jenkins	150	–	20.0	13.3	1.6	23.8
83	54	Scruttons "A"	69	–	5.7	8.3	9.0	10.8
167	112	Torday & Carlisle	114	–	11.4	10.0	5.1	8.8
29	21	Unilock Holdings	26	–	0.46	1.8	–	–
85	64	Walter Alexander	68	–	6.4	9.4	4.9	7.0
270	214	W. S. Yeates	265	–	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.5

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes plc, told the company's annual meeting in London yesterday that he was confident its reputation for real and consistent progress would be maintained in the current year.

Sales in 1983 had started slowly, but were now picking up around the world. The benefits of the investment programme were coming through in improved efficiencies and these, combined with close control of costs, meant that budgets were being met.

"The changing pattern of the business means that past relationships between the first and second halves of the year no longer hold", said Sir Adrian. "I would expect the second half of 1983 to account for a greater percentage of the year's profit than was the case in 1982."

The company aimed to increase profitability by investing in improved operating efficiencies and in effective marketing and selling.

"I am looking for a marked recovery in our trading profit in the United Kingdom, taking the year as a whole. This will not, however, alter the geographical balance of the company, which is now an international business with a strong home-base."

● Electra Investment Trust's earnings attributable to shareholders after tax for the year to March 31, 1983, rose by 10.66 per cent to £5.17m. The total dividend a share is being raised from 3p to 3.3p. Net asset value per ordinary 25p share increased during the year by 40.5 per cent to 102.51p.

● Dowty Group has acquired Owens Manif. of Bristol, Virginia, for $2.52m cash (£1.6m). Owens manufactures feeders, feeder brakers and belt conveyors used in underground handling of coal in room and pillar extraction. Although affected by the recession in the US coal industry, in its last financial year, Owens' sales and profits after tax amounted to $7.766m and $201,000 respectively.

Norman Hay
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £351,000 (£302,000).
Stated earnings, 7.6p (4.2p).
Turnover, £4.73m (£4.37m).
Net dividend, 3.1p (3.1p).

Garnar Booth
Year to 31.1.83.
Pretax profit, £1.11m (811,000).
Stated earnings (fully diluted) 15.6p (8.55p).
Turnover, £59.35m (45.28m).
Net dividend, 6.65p (6.4p).
Dividend payable on 4.7.83.

Barton Transport
Half-year to 12.3.83.
Pretax loss, £37,000 (£180,000 loss).
Turnover, £3.43m (£3.21m).
Net interim dividend, nil (nil).

T Cowie
Half-year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit, £325,000 (£311,000).
Stated earnings, 1.17p (1.15p).
Turnover, £50m (£44m).
Net interim dividend, 0.8p (0.8p).
Dividend payable on 22.7.83.

North Midland Construction
Half-year to 28.2.83.
Pretax profit, £127,000 (£98,000).
Stated earnings, 4.1p (3.4p).
Turnover, £3.55m (£3.81m).
Net interim dividend, 0.65p (0.65p).

J. O. Walker
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £298,000 (£116,000 loss).
Stated earnings, 37.1p (4.0p).
Turnover, £8.32m (£7.49m).
Net dividend, 3.5p (1.0p).

Doranakande Rubber Estates
to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £39,000 (£45,000).
Stated earnings, 3.33p (4.18p).
Net dividend, 3.0p (3.0p).
Dividend payable on about 16.7.83.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce

	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
High grade copper		
Cash	1111-1112.00	1114.50-1115
Three months	1138-1138.50	1138.50-1139
Standard cath (copper)		
Cash	1079-1080.00	1076-1077
Three months	1108-1109.00	1104-1105
Tin: cash	8655-8660	8645-8655
Three months	8600-8620	8600-8605
Lead: cash	275-275.50	274-274.50
Three months	285.25-285.50	284-285
Zinc: cash	454.50-455.00	458-459
Three months	468-468.50	472-473
Silver: cash	792.5-793.5	782-783
Three months	812-812.5	801.5-802
Aluminium: cash	863-864	863-863.50
Three months	889-889.50	889-889.50
Nickel: cash	3115-3120	3060-3070
Three months	3200-3205	3145-3155

L.M.E. TURNOVER
Copper (higher grade): 14,900 tonnes; Standard cathodes: 300 tonnes; Tin (standard): 1,340 tonnes; Lead: 4,300 tonnes; Zinc: 6,650 tonnes; Silver: 49 lots of 10,000 ozs. each; Aluminium: 3,950 tonnes; Nickel: 426 tonnes.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar and soyabean meal in pounds per metric ton;
Wool in N.Z. cents per kilo;
I.P.E. in U.S. per metric ton;
Gold in U.S. per oz.

RUBBER	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
June	714-720	732-745
July	718-719	733-745
July-Sept	717-719	734-735
Oct-Dec	723-724	735-736
Jan-Mar	742-743	755-757
April-June	762-765	772-778
July-Sept	782-785	794-797
Oct-Dec	802-805	715-718
Jan-March	822-828	734-738

Sales: One lot at 5 tonnes each and 159 lots at 15 tonnes each.

COFFEE	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1850-1852	1865-1868
July	1650-1651	1666-1668
Sept	1584-1586	1596-1599
Nov	1540-1542	1553-1555
Jan	1500-1501	1513-1514
March	1459-1468	1480-1485
May	1440-1448	1459-1460

Sales: 2,156 lots, including four options.

COCOA	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1285-1286	1266-1269
July	1314-1315	1302-1303
Sept	1320-1321	1307-1300
Dec	1335-1336	1318-1319
March	1346-1340	1332-1333
May	1350-1365	1342-1347
July	1365-1380	1350-1365

Sales: 2,892 lots. ICCO prices daily (May 4), 89.89c; indicator price (May 5), 5-day average, 90.40c. (U.S. cents per lb).

SUGAR	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
Aug	138.00-138.25	138.35-138.60
Oct	145.60-145.75	146.55-146.60
Dec	151.25-151.75	151.00-152.00
March	158.00-158.25	158.65-159.20
May	162.00-162.25	162.25-162.95

Sales: 3,017 lots. The London daily "raws" price was down by £2.00 yesterday, to £128.00 per tonne, while the "whites" price was £1.00 lower at £150.00 per tonne. I.S.A. prices (May 4), daily, 7.73c., 15-day average, 7.02c (US cents per lb).

WOOL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	422 buyer only	buyer unquoted 427 seller
Aug	442-447	450-451
Oct	445-447	458-454
Dec	443-448	450-455
Jan	445-446	455-457
March	450-456	460-465
May	457-461	470-474
Aug	466-470	479-482
Oct	470-476	481-484

Sales: 93 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
June	140.50-140.70	132.90-140.50
Aug	142.00-142.20	140.50-141.20
Oct	146.50-146.90	145.00-146.40
Dec	152.00-153.00	151.50-152.30
Feb.	156.10-158.00	155.60-157.50
April	156.00-158.80	155.30-157.50
June	156.00-160.00	156.00-160.00

Sales: 102 lots, including five kerbs.

GRAIN	Barley	Wheat
May	119.30	125.80
July	–	136.40
Sept	110.85	117.65
Nov	114.10	120.20
Jan	117.40	123.35
	(Sales: 22 lots)	(Sales: 184 lots)

LONDON GOLD FUTURES	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	$434.00-$436.50	432.00-433.00
June	$437.00-$437.40	435.20-435.40
July	$440.30-$441.00	438.00-438.80
Aug	$443.80-$443.90	441.70-442.00
Sept	$447.00-$448.00	444.80-445.60
Oct	$450.10-$451.00	448.00-449.00
Nov	$453.50-$455.00	451.20-452.50

Sales: 356 lots.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES:

Sterling Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	1.5760	1.5760	1.5700	1.5812
Sep	1.5725	1.5725	1.5675	1.5772
Dec	1.5737	1.5737	1.5737	1.5774

Sterling deposit Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	90.34	90.38	90.33	90.37
Sep	90.61	90.67	90.30	90.61
Dec	90.55	90.61	90.55	90.59
March	90.34	90.36	90.34	90.34
June	90.07	90.11	90.07	90.13

Long-gilts Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	105.09	106.17	105.05	106.15
Sep	106.29	106.29	106.25	106.52
Dec	107.29	108.01	107.29	108.02
March	107.17	107.17	107.17	107.25
June	–	–	–	106.78

D-Mark Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	4.109	4.117	4.107	4.098
Sep	4.109	4.150	4.109	4.125
Dec	–	–	–	–

Eurodollar Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	91.35	91.41	91.32	[illegible]
Sep	91.20	91.30	91.20	[illegible]
Dec	90.97	91.06	90.97	[illegible]
March	90.78	90.83	90.77	[illegible]
June	90.62	90.53	90.52	90.47

Swiss franc Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	489.2	489.2	488.5	[illegible]
Sep	495.5	595.5	495.5	[illegible]
Dec	–	–	–	

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

Insurance Bonds and Funds

هكذا من الاهل

Industrial notebook

Home truths about coal outlook

It is now a commonplace to comment on the remarkable transformation in industrial relations that has occurred in Britain's coal industry over the last year. It is only 14 months since Mr Scargill, breathing lungfuls of fire and confrontation, took over as leader of the National Union of Mineworkers.

However, what promised to be the *annus mirabilis* of coal field militancy has proved to be very opposite. The pay ballot, Kinneil, Merthyr Tydfil, all bear witness to the triumph of the campaign of commonsense and determination being waged by the coal board, with the grateful backing of the Government.

Yet there is another side to the board's activities which has generated less attention than the strikes and pit closures which have dominated the headlines. This is the marketing side of the coal board – and here, too, there has been a noticable change in emphasis since Mr Norman Siddall, the greff mining engineer, took over as interim board chairman last year.

Anybody who was at the coal board's annual press conference this week would have been left in no doubt that the coal market is still very much down in the dumps. *Demand for coal, despite being* widely hailed as the fuel of the future, and Britain's answer to Opec, has fallen from 133 million tonnes in 1973 to a new low of 110 million tonnes in the financial year just ended.

In contrast to the irrepressibly optimistic Lord Ezra, Mr Siddall and his colleagues make no bones about the fact that they face at least five tough years of weak demand.

Demand this year may pick up by the odd million tonne or so, helped it should be said by a ban on CEGB coal imports and government grants for industrial coal conversion, but the medium term outlook is still bleak.

It is probably arguable whether the collapse of the coal market makes it easier or harder for the board to press ahead with what is (*pace* Mr Scargill) the necessary and inevitable closure of uneconomic pits. I suspect that it does make a difficult task somewhat less difficult: but what is not in doubt is that presentation is a key part of the equation.

One of the Government's most frequent criticisms of Lord Ezra, a marketing man by profession, was that his regular eulogies of the coal industry when selling coal fitted ill with his apparently sudden conversion, when threatened with industrial action in the pits, to the view that the industry's future was in fact dire.

By contrast the present chairman, whose loyalty to the industry is every bit as strong as his predecessor's, has always struck a less articulate *but more convincingly realistic* line about the industry's financial prospects.

It will be interesting to see how Mr Ian MacGregor chooses to play this particular aspect of his new responsibilities when he takes over in September. Stung no doubt by the "hatchet man" taunts, his supporters have been making much of the fact that Mr MacGregor is at least as impressive in finding markets for products as he is at shutting down uneconomic or antiquated capacity.

Everybody must hope that this is the case: for the industry's problems are ones of demand and morale as well of high costs.

Jonathan Davis

Law Report May 6 1983 House of Lords

Injury claim against driver's insurers statute-barred

Deerness v John R. Keeble & Son (Brantham) Ltd and Another

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman

[Speeches delivered May 5]

Where a writ in a personal injuries action was issued within the three-year limitation period in section 11 of the Limitation Act 1980 but was not served within that period, and a second writ was then issued outside the limitation period, the plaintiff was not entitled to leave to continue the action under section 33 of the Act because a writ had *been issued within the limitation* period.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff, Miss Lorna Deerness, of Baldock, Herts, from a judgment of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the *Rolls and Lord Justice Dillon*) (*The Times*, October 18, 1982) who, allowing an appeal by the defendants, John R. Keeble & Son (Brantham) Ltd, owners of a motor car, and Miss Caroline Keeble, of Manningtree, Essex, its driver, from Mr Justice Comyn, upheld a decision of Master Prebble that the plaintiff's claim was statute barred.

Section 11 of the Limitation Act 1980 provides: "(1) This section applies to any action for damages for negligence . . . where the damages claimed . . . consist of or include damages in respect of personal injuries to the plaintiff . . .

"(3) An action to which this section applies shall not be brought after the expiration of the period applicable in accordance with subsection (4) . . .

"(4) . . . the period applicable is three years from – (a) the date on which the cause of action accrued . . .".

Section 33 provides: "(1) If it appears to the court that it would be equitable to allow an action to proceed having regard to the degree to which – (a) the provisions of section 11 . . . prejudice the plaintiff . . .; and (b) any decision of the court under this subsection would prejudice the defendant . . . the court may direct that those provisions *shall not* apply to the action . . .".

Mr Piers Ashworth, QC and Mr Richard Mawrey for the plaintiff; Mr Michael Turner, QC and Mr Julien Hooper for the defendants.

LORD DIPLOCK said that on October 7, 1977, there was a motor accident when the plaintiff, then aged 19, was a passenger in a car which ran into a lamp standard on a motorway. The plaintiff sustained very serious injuries which had left her a paraplegic.

The plaintiff's solicitors got in touch with Cornhill Insurance Co Ltd, with whom both the defendants were insured. The negotiations proceeded in a somewhat desultory fashion, but it was only fair to say that, although, apart from a possible allegation of contributory negligence by the plaintiff in not wearing a seat belt, liability was not in question after the second defendant pleaded guilty to a charge of careless driving. The plaintiff's medical condition was slow in stabilising and as late as November 1979 a final prognosis was still not available.

A reliable estimate of the quantum of damages that would be recoverable (which included a claim for the plaintiff's loss of earnings prospects as a professional show-jumper) was therefore not possible at that date.

A writ was issued in August 1979 but it was not served within 12 months, nor was any application made for its renewal before the *primary limitation period expired* on October 7, 1980. In the meantime, an opportunity arose for the plaintiff to purchase a motor vehicle adapted to her disabilities, and Cornhill sent the solicitors a cheque for £5,000 "as interim *payment as agreed*".

In April 1981 the file of the case was taken over by someone else in the solicitors' firm, and he realized that the likelihood of being able to obtain an extension of the writ, the primary limitation period having expired, was minimal. He accordingly caused a fresh writ to be issued.

The issue of limitation arose in the pleadings, and in due course an application by the plaintiff that she should be permitted under section 33 of the 1980 Act to continue the action in spite of section 11, came before the master, and was dismissed.

On the plaintiff's appeal, Mr Justice Comyn was faced with the unanimous House of Lords decision in *Walkley v Precision Forgings Ltd* (*[1979] 1 WLR 606*) *that a plaintiff* who had actually started an action before the expiry of the primary limitation period could not, for the purpose of what was now section 33, be "prejudiced" by the application of section 11.

The judge, however, seized on a passage in his Lordship's speech where his Lordship, with customary caution, left open the possibility that there might be "exceptional circumstances" where a plaintiff might be allowed to proceed in *those circumstances. The example* which his Lordship gave was where the plaintiff "had been induced to discontinue by a misrepresentation or other improper conduct by the defendant".

Walkley's case was one of *discontinuance of proceedings, and* his Lordship's example was more accurately characterized as an estoppel from relying on section 11, rather than a disapplication of that section by the court in the exercise of its discretion under section 33, such discretion being exercised having regard to the matters specified in section 33.

Whether a defendant was estopped or not was a question of law, and not a matter of discretion for the judge. The rationale of the rule laid down *in Walkley* did not logically admit of any exceptions.

Mr Justice Comyn treated the reference in *Walkley* to a possible exception to the rule laid down in that case, as giving a judge *carte blanche* to disregard the general rule in any case where he thought the circumstances were exceptional.

He held that there were such circumstances in the instant case, namely, the facts of the accident, the guilty plea, the prolonged correspondence between the solicitors and Cornhill, the interim payment by Cornhill and the fact that the defendants would not be prejudiced by the action continuing.

None of those matters overcame the fatal obstacle that the solicitors did cause a writ to be issued within the primary limitation period.

As was said in *Thompson v Brown* ([1981] 1 WLR 744), it might seem anomalous that a solicitor's negligence in failing to issue a writ within the primary limitation period was capable of being mitigated by an application under section 33, whereas his negligence in failing to serve it before its validity for service expired was not capable of being so mitigated.

But that was a consequence of a greater anomaly, too well established for the House to abolish, that for limitation purposes an action was brought when a writ was issued rather then when it was brought to the defendant's knowledge by service upon him.

Moreover, as Lord Wilberforce *pointed out in Walkley, if the* plaintiff did bring his first action within the normal limitation period, any prejudice he later suffered was by reason of his own inaction and not the operation of section 11.

Before their Lordships' House the *plaintiff raised a* contention that there could be spelt out of the correspondence and the interim payment either an agreement by Cornhill not to rely on the 1980 Act, or a representation by them to that effect which induced the solicitors to refrain from renewing the first writ. There was no basis for any such argument in the pleadings.

There was no doubt that if an action had been brought and proceeded with timeously, the plaintiff would long previously have recovered very substantial damages which Cornhill would have had to pay.

But the solicitors were insured against liability for negligence, and what the appeal was really about was a squabble between the solicitors' insurers and Cornhill as to who would have to pay the heavy damages.

The plaintiff herself would not suffer. She had already received £100,000, pursuant to a condition which the Appeal Committee of the House imposed on granting leave to appeal. She should now receive the balance.

Lord Edmund-Davis, Lord Keith, Lord Brandon and Lord Brightman agreed.

Solicitors: A. E. Hamlin & Co: Stanleys & Simpson North.

Fraudulent use of vehicle excise licence

Regina v Terry

Before Lord Justice Dunn, Mr *Justice Balcombe* and Mr Justice Leonard

[Judgment delivered May 5]

A person did not fraudulently use an excise licence within the meaning of section 26(1) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971, unless he used it in an attempt to avoid paying the proper licence fee.

Therefore, a direction to the jury which left it open to them to convict the defendant even where they accepted that he had not attempted to avoid paying the fee, but merely to avoid being charged with using a car without exhibiting a licence in breach of section 12(4) of the same Act, was a misdirection.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held, allowing the *defendant's appeal* against his conviction by Warrington Crown Court on February 25, 1982.

Mr Thomas Teague for the appellant defendant; Mr Paul O'Brien for the prosecution.

MR JUSTICE BALCOMBE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had been convicted on two counts: (1) the theft of an excise licence; and (2) the fraudulent use of an excise licence contrary to section 26(1) the 1971 Act. *He appealed against his* conviction on the second count.

On May 18, 1981, the appellant rented a Ford Escort from a car hire firm. He returned the car on May 22, 1981, but the tax disc had gone.

On June 1, 1981, the appellant was driving his own Ford Cortina. No excise licence was displayed on the windscreen.

When stopped by a police officer and asked for his excise licence, the appellant reached into the car and produced the unexpired tax disc from the hired Ford Escort.

The appellant told the police officer that he had already applied for a licence for the Ford Cortina, and he repeated that assertion when he gave evidence at his trial.

The learned recorder, while directing the jury on the law on count 2, said the prosecution had to prove an intention that the licence would be accepted as a genuine document applicable to that Cortina *motor car*.

In other words, that a police officer looking at the car would have wrongly thought the car was validly taxed and had a licence exhibited although, in fact, it was not validly *taxed and there was no licence for* that particular car.

The appellant contended that this was a misdirection, since it left it open to the jury to convict him even if they accepted his statement that he had already applied for a licence for the Cortina, and was not therefore trying to avoid paying the proper licence fee for that car, but was merely trying to avoid being charged with using the car without a licence being exhibited in breach of section 12(4) of the 1971 Act.

In *R v Manners-Astley* ([1967] 1 WLR 1505) it was held that a person did not fraudulently use an excise licence, within the meaning of section 17(1) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962, unless he used it in an attempt to avoid paying the proper licence fee. Section 17(1) of the 1962 Act was, in all material respects, in the same terms as *section 26(1) of the 1971 Act*.

Unfortunately, the attention of the learned recorder had not been drawn to that case. If it had been his direction might have taken a different form, since on the facts it would have been open to the jury to find that *the appellant's use of the* Escort's tax disc was in order to avoid paying the proper licence fee for the Cortina.

Mr Teague, for the Crown, took the bold course of submitting that *Manners-Astley* was inconsistent with the decision of *the House of* Lords in *Welham v DPP* ([1961] AC 103).

There it was held that the words "intent to defraud" in section 4(1) of the Forgery Act 1913 were not confined to the idea of depriving a *person by deceit of some economic* advantage or inflicting upon him some economic loss, but could extend to the purpose of deceiving a person responsible for a public duty into doing something that he would not have done but for the deceit, or *not doing something* that but *for* it he would have done.

The speeches made it clear that that interpretation of "intent to defraud" was founded largely upon the general meaning of "defraud" and was not based solely on the *particular construction of the* Forgery Act 1913.

Nevertheless *Welham* was fully considered by the Court of Appeal in *Manners-Astley* and was distinguished as being confined to the Forgery Act.

His Lordship felt bound to say that he did not find it easy to understand that distinction: indeed in the subsequent case in the House of Lords of *Scott v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* ([1975] AC 819), Viscount Dilhorne made it clear that he considered the definition of "defraud" in *Welham's* case as being of general application.

Further, that narrow construction of 'fraudulent use' might produce an unsatisfactory result, as was exemp*lified in the present case. But their* Lordships could not say that *Manners-Astley* had been decided *per incuriam*, and accordingly the appeal would be allowed and the conviction on count 2 quashed.

Solicitors: Ashalls, Warrington; Mr E. C. Woodcock, Chester.

Appeal pleas heard in open court

Practice Statement

Sir John Donaldson, Master of *the Rolls, sitting* with Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Purchas in the Court of Appeal on May 5, issued a practice statement on applications heard by a single judge.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that last October he made a statement (*The Times*, October 5, 1982) concerning changes being made in the procedure of the court. In the course of the "informal commentary" which he issued at the same time, he drew attention to the fact that a single judge of the Court of Appeal would be able to consider incidental applications, such as those for leave to appeal, thus saving the time of the full court. His Lordship added that that judge would sit in chambers.

It had recently been suggested that on the true construction of the Supreme Court Act, 1981, and Order 59 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, the sole exception to the general rule that the single judge would normally sit in chambers was where he was considering an application for leave to appeal and that he should then sit in open court. The practice had been altered accordingly and applications for leave to appeal were now being heard in open court.

Although it was now considered that the previous practice of hearing such applications otherwise than in open court was a procedural irregularity, the only result of such irregularity was that orders previously made in chambers could, in theory, be set aside if applications were made for that purpose.

As the merits would have been fully considered before the order was made, the applicant, on any such application, would be unlikely to succeed unless he satisfied the *court that he had been prejudiced* by the hearing having taken place in chambers rather than in open court.

Shoots are not special occasions

Chief Constable of Kent v Denyer

On an application for 12 special exemptions from permitted licensing hours under section 74(4) of the Licensing Act 1964 for 12 shooting occasions during the shooting season, justices should consider as a matter of law whether the 12 occasions were capable of being special occasions, Mr Justice Forbes said in the Queen's Bench Division on May 4, allowing the chief constable's appeal by way of case *stated* against the grant of the special licences.

HIS LORDSHIP said that *R v Berwyn Justices, Ex parte Edwards* ([1980] 1 WLR 1045) set out the approach to be adopted when considering an application under section 74(4).

Although the frequency of the occasions was important, the justices had not considered whether the 12 shooting occasions were special occasions. There was no special occasion concerned with a shoot any more than there was a special occasion concerned with a football match.

The 12 occasions could not be regarded as special occasions either nationally or locally and the appeal should be allowed.

Committing for sentence

Regina v Guildhall Justices, Ex parte Cooper

When considering whether to commit a defendant to the crown court for sentence under section 38 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 and section 56 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, justices should take account only of information which had come to their knowledge after they had decided that the case was suitable for summary trial; facts of which they had been aware when that decision had been taken were not subsequently to be considered when considering a section 38 committal.

Mr Justice Glidewell, sitting in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court on May 4 with Lord Justice Robert Goff, so held, granting an application for certiorari to quash an order of the justices committing the applicant to the Croydon Crown Court for sentence on three charges to which he had pleaded guilty.

CRICKET

Hadlee enlivens a quiet day with century

By Alan Ross

HOVE: Sussex, with all second innings wickets in hand are 178 runs behind Nottinghamshire.

Richard Hadlee, whose bowling brought ruin to Sussex on Wednesday morning, was mainly responsible for Nottinghamshire building up a solid lead. He arrived soon after lunch, with Randall just out and the score 135 for four. In no time he had rattled up 50, scorching the covers with handsome strokes off the back foot and once lifting Barclay in the pavilion. Thereafter he took it quietly and by the time he reached his hundred at 5pm he had long become discretion itself.

By then, however, Nottinghamshire were 290 for six and Sussex's bowling in Imran's absence, was looking decidedly thin. Hadlee was caught on the boundary the next ball after his hundred or Sussex might have had a nastier last hour. Instead, Rice declared at 322 for nine to give Sussex 45 minutes' batting.

In contrast, though, to the dramas of the morning before, it was a day of few incidents. The occasional ball kept low but that apart the Sussex bowlers got little out of a docile pitch.

On a hazy, almost warm morning, Nottinghamshire quickly lost Hassan and Robinson, the latter to a fine catch by Wells at slip off Le Roux.

Randall was in one of his more introverted moods but Rice was soon driving the quicker bowlers skimmingly off front and back foot. It took a lovely ball from Le Roux to hit his off stump when he had cruised to 37.

Randall, producing none of the strokes that are recognisably his, received another beauty after lunch from Pigott that pitched on his middle stump and hit the base of the off.

Birch, though at first content to watch Hadlee dispatch some not very testing bowling, gradually began to produce reflective variations of his own. He and Hadlee put to gether 78 before Birch, lunging at Waller, was held by Green in front of the sight screen.

Barclay had a very short bowl, Wells and Greig rather a longer one, and Waller with some accuracy but generally flattish trajectory, much the longest. Greig got little past the bat and it was really only the odd ball from Pigott that hustled enough to cause concern. Waller picked up a wicket or two on a chill, sunless evening, but by that time they were more in the nature of presents.

Green, fielding at silly mid-on took a nasty crack on the knee from the last hit of the Nottinghamshire innings.

SUSSEX: First Innings

G D Mendis b Hadlee	0
A M Green l-b-w b Hendrick	6
J R T Barclay b Hadlee	0
P W G Parker l-b-w b Hadlee	4
C M Wells c French b Hendrick	5
I A Greig b Hadlee	0
I J Gould c French b Hendrick	3
G S le Roux c Hemmings b Cooper	6
C P Phillipson c French b Cooper	22
A C S Pigott b Hendrick	63
G E Waller not out	0
Extras (l-b 9, n-b 1)	10
Total (61.5 overs)	115

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-0, 3-8, 4-6, 5-5, 6-8, 7-17, 8-19, 9-115, 10-115.

BOWLING: Hadlee 20-11-25-4; Hendrick 19.2-10-26-4; Cooper 7.1-3-20-2; Saxelby 8-1-21-0; Hemmings 5-4-11-0.

Second Innings

G D Mendis not out	22
J R T Barclay not out	7
Total (no wkt)	29

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

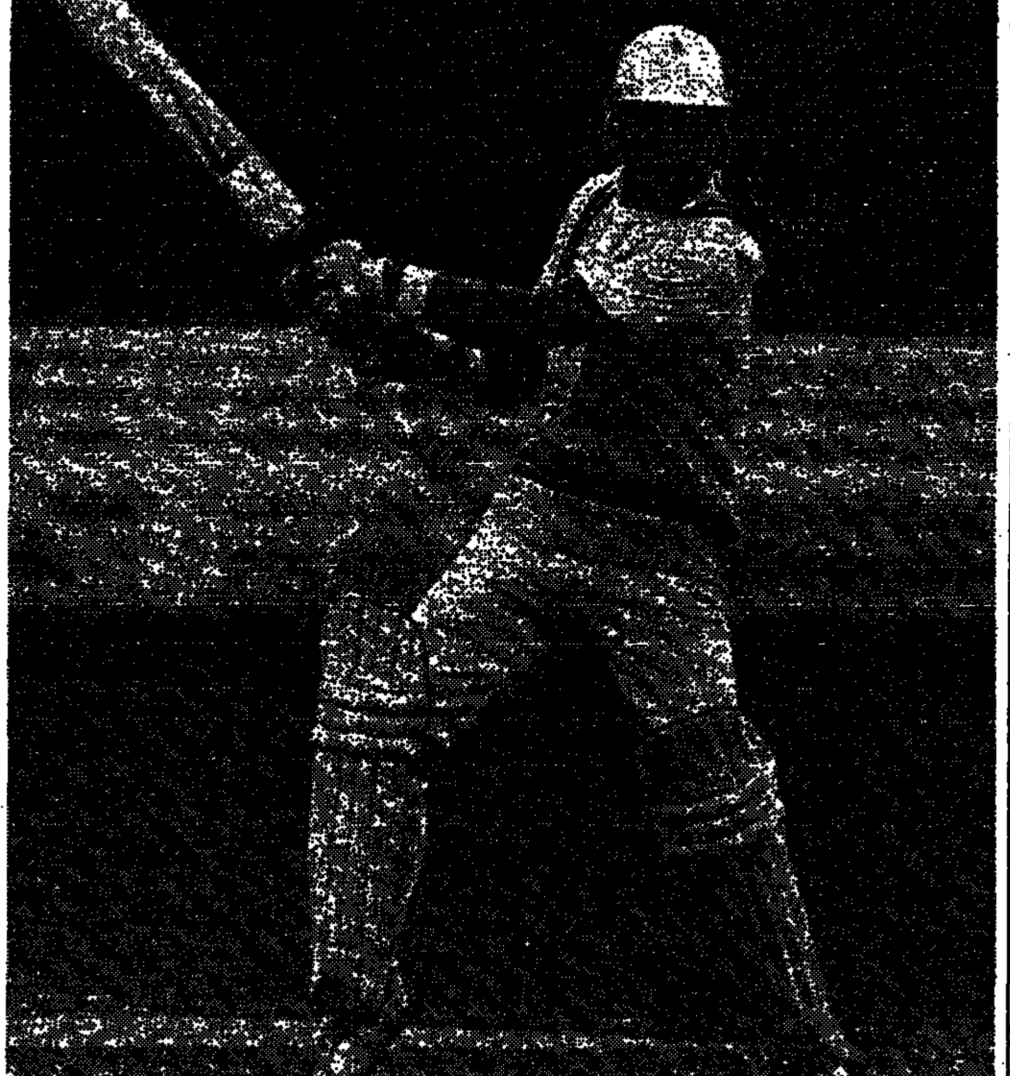
B T Hassan c Green b Pigott	3
R T Robinson c Wells b Le Roux	12
D W Randall b Pigott	43
*C E B Rice b Le Roux	37
J D Birch c Green b Waller	55
R J Hadlee c Phillipson b Wells	103
†B N French c Gould b Waller	18
E E Hemmings c Gould b Waller	11
K Saxelby not out	17
K E Cooper b Pigott	6
M Hendrick not out	0
Extras (b 10, w 2, n-b 6)	18
Total (9 wkts dec, 100 overs)	322

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-18, 3-84, 4-135, 5-213, 6-288, 7-290, 8-301, 9-312.

BOWLING: Le Roux 17-4-61-2; Pigott 20-4-81-3; Greig 18-1-68-0; Waller 31-10-80-3; Barclay 4-0-23-0; Wells 10-1-31-1.

Bonus points: Sussex 4, Nottinghamshire 8.

Umpires: J H Harris and A G T Whitehead.



Barlow: pitch made him work hard

Painstaking century for Barlow

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: Middlesex have scored 331 for 6 declared against Lancashire.

With Barlow surpassing by a long way anything he did last season, Middlesex made 331 for 6 declared against Lancashire yesterday. Today it will be Lancashire's turn to see whether they can improve upon Middlesex's three bonus points for batting.

The weather was cool but mercifully dry. With the wind blowing from beyond the indoor school, the Mound must have been warmer than the grand stand balcony. The pitch was slow, making it hard work for the bowlers. The batsmen found it easier to survive than to attack. For his 128, Barlow batted five hours 10 minutes. Having started by finding that not even a firm snick would run for four, he finished by finding that the well-timed drive or force would hardly do so either.

By the end of last season Barlow was having a job to hold his own in the Middlesex 2nd XI. Now, though, he knows he can still bat. He is the worthiest and keenest of cricketers. It was not until after lunch that he lost Slack, his opening partner, by then they had made 119 together. There are those who think that Slack, the left-handed St Vincentian, will finish up by going in first for England. If so he will need a stroke player for a partner.

Lancashire bowled better than they caught. They put down perhaps half a dozen chances, most of them awkward. Of the two they caught, one, by Simmons at slip off Allott, was low enough for Butcher to wait to be given out. The other, at mid-off, was by Peter Lever, who was on the field for the first time since he retired in 1976. Now Lancashire's first team coach, he was called into action when Maynard, keeping wicket, jarred a finger. Fowler went behind the stumps. It was Fowler, in fact, who gave Barlow his one life, when he was 91, a diving chance escaping.

At various times in the day Gatting must have considered a declaration. Had he wanted to try and contrive a finish he could hardly have afforded to bat much beyond the lunch interval. In the end he decided, not entirely characteristically, that Middlesex might as well bat out the day, so dead was the pitch and so slender their chance of getting Lancashire on the run. We are committed now, I am afraid, to what could be a last day of deadly dullness.

No-one – not even the best attack in the world – would have found wickets easy to come by. As it was, Allott bowled a good length and a straight line and occasionally beat the bat. Jeffries's reward for plenty of hard work was Tomlins's wicket, given leg before on the front foot. Folley and O'Shaughnessy were the wrong pace to bowl anyone out – strictly military medium.

From time to time, when he threw the ball up, Simmons found it would turn. He bowled all afternoon, belying his 42 years. Abrahams fielded brilliantly.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

G D Barlow run out	128
W N Slack l-b-w b Simmons	56
C T Radley c sub b Simmons	33
*M W Gatting not out	64
R O Butcher c Simmons b Allott	0
K P Tomlins l-b-w b Jefferies	1
J E Emburey b Abrahams	29
†P R Downton not out	4
Extras (b 4, l-b 6, w 1, n-b 5)	16
Total (6 wkts dec)	331

Score at 100 overs: 266-5.

N F Williams, N G Cowans and W W Daniel did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-119, 2-203, 3-235, 4-235, 5-236, 6-310.

BOWLING: Allott 26-7-68-1; Jefferies 22-6-60-1; Simmons 31-7-73-2; Folley 13-3-55-0; O'Shaughnessy 8-0-30-0; Hughes 6-0-21-0; Lloyd 5-1-15-0; Abrahams 4-0-15-1.

Bonus points (to date): Middlesex 3, Lancashire 2.

LANCASHIRE: G Fowler, D Lloyd, S J O'Shaughnessy, D P Hughes, F C Hayes, *J Abrahams, J Simmons, S T Jefferies, †C Maynard, P J W Allott, I Folley.

Umpires: K Ibadulla and P B Wight.

Surrey beat their chests in the cold

By Alan Gibson

Bristol: Surrey, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 81 runs behind Gloucestershire.

There had been heavy rain overnight and no play was possible until 2.30. Even then it continued under grey skies with several spots of drizzle. The conditions favoured the seamers. The pitch was soft and slow. The fieldsmen kept slipping about, the bowlers had trouble with their run-ups, there was much arm-swinging and chest-beating to keep out the cold.

For it did become chilly. Even Pamela, the glorious imperturbable redhead who presides over the bar felt like a bit of warming up.

Surrey began at 28 for one, 305 behind, 10 overs gone. By tea, after 44 overs, Smith and Clinton had progressed to 106. The only serious troubles they were in were self-induced. Clinton should have been caught from a careless swing to the on. Smith, whose final position in his stance is with the bat pinting vertically towards the sky, looks vulnerable to a yorker, but when Shepherd tested him with a couple of good ones he got it down in time.

Shepherd was, I think, the best of the bowlers and might have bowled more but no doubt Graveney was bearing in mind that he will have an awful lot of work to do this season. Smith and Clinton batted well and, if the play was not exciting, the runs kept ticking along.

After tea, the clouds lifted a little, though there was not trace of sunshine. Clinton and Smith carried on smoothly. Clinton had another escape when he missed playing on to Graveney by an inch or so but the scoring rate improved and Gloucestershire began to look a little daunted. The 200 came up in the sixty-ninth over.

Smith was catching up Clinton but Clinton reached his 100 and Smith did not; but Smith must have been pleased with his innings. It will take imaginative captaincy, as well as kind weather, to get a good finish.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 333 for 7 dec (B C Broad 122, A J Hignell 50 not out, P Pocock 4 for 70).

SURREY: First Innings

A R Butcher st Russell b Childs	14
G S Clinton c Broad b Shepherd	105
M D Smith c Bainbridge b Childs	90
[illegible] not out	22
*R D V Knight b Childs	0
M A Lynch not out	9
Extras (b 3, l-b 8, w 1)	12
Total (4 wkts, 83 overs)	252

†C J Richards, D J Thomas, G T Clarke, G Monkhouse and P I Pocock to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-218, 3-234, 4-238.

Umpires: D J Constant and J Van Geloven.



Clinton: lifted the clouds

Carse shows another side to his game

By Richard Streeton

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire, with all second innings in hand, lead Hampshire, by 169 runs.

Hampshire let themselves down with tentative batting at the county ground yesterday, and were all out for 177, eight minutes from the close. After tea, Hampshire lost seven wickets for 44 runs in 95 minutes. The avoidance of the follow-on soon became academic, though Cook will not decide until this morning whether to enforce it.

First thing, on a cool overcast day, Willey and Carse added a futher 76 in 70 minutes to complete Northamptonshire's recovery, after their shaky start. Cook wanted further runs, but could hardly have anticipated that the ninth wicket pair would show the profit they did.

Willey resumed in the same frame of mind he exhibited for most of Wednesday: respectful to the good balls, and willing to punish the loose ones. He paid Carse the compliment of leaving him to fend for himself, and Carse justified his faith. Carse, a Zimbabweian of Scottish origins, is shown in Wisden as batting No 11 for Eastern Province.

Nobody would attempt to deprive Griffiths of that place in the Northamptonshire order, and Carse himself could move higher in the list if he bats often with the method he now showed. He defended calmly and, once his eye was in, began to loft the seam bowlers into the outfield.

Carse's *forte*, of course, is fast-medium bowling, and he showed commitment and vigour in several spells without always getting the reward he deserved. He stands just over 6ft 2ins and covers a 30-pace run up at full pelt. First Willey and Larkins, then Carse – the focus in this fluctuating match remained on those who wintered a South Africa since Chris Smith opened the batting for Hampshire.

Smith, who showed ominous authority from the start, made a century at Leicester on Saturday, and next Wednesday becomes qualified for England, under the four-year rule. He could seldom score as rapidly as he wanted.

Steele's left-arm spin was soon tried, and he had Tremlett caught behind with a ball that spun and lifted but generally Steele, Willey and Williams turned the ball too slowly for them to be a serious menace. It was the Northamptonshire seam bowlers who worked their way through the main Hampshire batting.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

*G Cook l-b-w b Malone	14
W Larkins l-b-w b Malone	27
P Willey not out	175
A J Lamb c Southern b Tremlett	14
R G Williams c Parks b Emery	6
D J Capel c Parks b Malone	8
D S Steele b Tremlett	19
†G Sharp c Cowley b Nicholas	11
N A Mallender b Malone	2
J A Carse not out	36
Extras (b 9, l-b 9, w 1, n-b 15)	34
Total (8 wkts dec)	342

Score at 100 overs: 283-8.

B J Griffiths did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-78, 3-95, 4-102, 5-157, 6-198, 7-243, 8-264.

BOWLING: Emery 22-3-87-1; Malone 27-6-93-4; Southern 15-3-12-0; Tremlett 20-10-29-2; Jesty 14-4-31-0; Cowley 11-0-30-0; Nicholas 6-0-30-1.

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

T M Tremlett c Sharp b Steele	9
C L Smith c Sharp b Griffiths	55
M C J Nicholas c Larkins b Mallender	44
T E Jesty b Carse	8
D R Turner b Griffiths	13
*N E J Pocock lbw b Mallender	4
N G Cowley lbw b Carse	2
†R J Parks c Capel b Steele	15
J W Southern lbw b Willey	7
K St J D Emery lbw b Carse	8
S J Malone not out	0
Extras (b2, lb5, w1, nb4)	12
Total (85 overs)	177

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-89, 3-113, 4-133, 5-139, 6-144, 7-146, 8-157, 9-177, 10-177.

BOWLING: Carse 18-2-54-3; Griffiths 17-6-28-2; Steele 17-11-21-2; Willey 15-5-26-1; Mallender 15-5-22-2; Williams 4-0-14-0.

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 7, Hampshire 4.

Umpires: P J Eele and Leadbeater.

Lively joust brought to abrupt end

By Peter Marson

CARDIFF: Glamorgan, with nine first innings wickets in hand, are 263 runs behind Essex.

A grey day and a persistent drizzle meant that the weather forecasters were wrong, rain during the night and in the early morning here had been scheduled to clear off elsewhere by mid-morning.

We had been prepared, therefore, for a delayed start and in the circumstances a quarter of an hour seemed reasonable enough. Moreover, when Glamorgan began again at 36 for one the partnership between Hopkins and Selvy quickly began to take on an interesting look.

Lever came bounding in enthusiastically at one end and at the other, Phillip raced hopefully to the crease. Selvey had the temerity to offdrive Phillip to the boundary.

Fletcher felt obliged to summon Pringle to see what effect he might have. Alas, after half an hour this joust ended abruptly when more rain came sweeping in, and this led eventually to the abandonment of the match for the day at 5 o'clock.

ESSEX: First innings 325 for 6 dec (K W R Fletcher 151 not out, K S McEwan 107).

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

A Jones b Lever	13
J A Hopkins not out	18
*M W W Selvey not out	24
Extras (b 2, l-b 1, n-b 4)	7
Total (1 wkt, 22 overs)	62

D A Francis, Javed Miandad, C J C Rowe, R C Ontong, B J Lloyd, J G Thomas, †E W Jones, A H Wilkins to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25.

Bonus points (to date): Glamorgan 2, Essex 4.

Umpires: W E Alley and K E Palmer.

Cambridge U v Kent

KENT: First innings 324 for 5 dec (N R Taylor 114, M R Benson 105).

Second Innings

R A Woolmer c Boyd-Moss b Pollock	4
*C J Tavaré b Cotterell	44
C S Cowdrey not out	103
G W Johnson not out	4
Extras (l-b 2)	2
Total (2 wkts)	157

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-119.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings

T S Curtis c and b Dilley	6
D W Varey c Knott b Underwood	19
R J Boyd-Moss c Knott b Ellison	3
*S P Henderson l-b-w b Ellison	21
G Pathmanathan c Tavaré b Woolmer	48
P G Roebuck l-b-w b Jarvis	12
K I Hodgson c Knott b Woolmer	7
S J G Doggart b Woolmer	2
T A Cotterell c Tavaré b Dilley	5
A J Pollock not out	0
†A G Davies b Dilley	0
Extras (b 3, l-b 8, n-b 5)	16
Total	140

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-22, 3-49, 4-61, 5-111, 6-119, 7-130, 8-139, 9-139, 10-140.

BOWLING: Dilley 13-6-21-3; Jarvis 11-2-35-1; Ellison 13-3-31-2; Underwood 9-3-19-0; Woolmer 7-3-13-3.

Umpires: C Cook and C T Spencer.

Wright the bright spot

LEICESTER: Leicestershire, with nine second innings wickets in hand, lead Derbyshire by 90 runs.

Leicestershire lead by 90 runs thanks to some hard work by their bowlers on a placid pitch. They are still without their main strike bowlers, Roberts and Taylor, so this was a splendid effort.

But Derbyshire must be worried about the approaching day when they lose their opener, Wright, to the World Cup and forthcoming Test series.

The New Zealand left-hander had the highest score, an attractive 60. That was the brightest spot of a fairly dull day's cricket. Eventually Derbyshire scrambled to 265 for eight declared.

But for three missed catches, Leicestershire could have restricted their opponents even further but after Wright's departure, shortly before lunch, only a stubborn fourth-wicket stand of 77 between Hampshire and Miller stood between Leicester and a breakthrough.

The key was the left-arm spin of Steele and the bowling of England hopeful, Cook, whose nagging accuracy frustrated Derby's attempt to accelerate their scoring rate.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings 302 for 3 dec (B F Davison 84 not out, D I Gower 81, J C Balderstone 69).

Second Innings

J C Balderstone not out	31
R A Cobb l-b-w b Miller	18
D I Gower not out	0
Extras	4
Total (1 wkt)	53

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*B Wood lbw b Agnew	18
J G Wright c Balderstone b Clift	60
K J Barnett c Balderstone b Cook	20
J H Hampshire c Tolchard b Parsons	32
G Miller b Cook	52
A Hill c Gower b Cook	12
P G Newman c Steele b Agnew	21
C J Tunnicliffe b Agnew	0
R W Taylor not out	11
D G Moir not out	10
Extras	29
Total (8 wks dec, 100 overs)	265

S Oldham did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-86, 3-103, 4-180, 5-186, 6-213, 7-215, 8-245.

BOWLING: Agnew 23-6-80-2; Parsons 21-5-46-1; Cook 21-7-39-3; Clift 14-2-51-1; Steele 21-11-29-1.

Bonus points: Leicestershire 7, Derbyshire 4.

Umpires: N T Plews and R A White.

Overruling the umpires

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire have scored 62 for one against Warwickshire

Ray Illingworth and Dennis Amiss, using their captains' right, over-ruled the umpires to start the delayed championship match against Warwickshire. But the weather won in the end, bad light ending play 45 minutes early with Yorkshire 61 for one.

Dickie Bird and Ray Julian were due to make a third inspection at 2.45 but 20 minutes before that the two captains came out and tossed, Amiss sending Yorkshire in to bat.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

G Boycott, b Ferreira	28
R G Lumb not out	29
G B Stevenson, not out	0
Extras (l-b 3, n-b 1)	4
Total (1 wkt, 43.4 overs)	61

C W J Athey, J D Love, S N Hartley, †D L Bairstow, P Carrick, A Sidebottom, *R Illingworth and S J Dennis to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55.

WARWICKSHIRE: T A Lloyd, K D Smith, *D L Amiss, A I Kallicharran, G W Humpage, A M Ferreira, G C Small, Asif Din, W Hogg.

Umpires: H D Bird and R Julian.

Botham brings one highlight

TAUNTON: Worcestershire, with nine first innings wickets in hand, are 237 runs behind Somerset.

Only 27 overs play was possible between the showers. Worcestershire finished 78 for one in reply to Somerset's declared overnight total of 325 for seven. Play came in four periods, the shortest of four overs, the longest of 13. Ormrod made 22 before being brilliantly caught at slip by Botham.

SOMERSET: First innings 325 for 7 dec (P M Roebuck 81, J W Lloyds 58; Bowling: Pridgeon 28-6-98-3; Inchmore 24-5-66-2; Patel 15-1-59-1; Perryman 15-4-52-0; Illingworth 18-2-66-1).

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

J A Ormrod c Botham b Wilson	22
M J Weston not out	36
*P A Neale not out	14
Extras (b1, l-b2, n-b3)	6
Total (1 wkt, 27 overs)	78

D N Patel, Younis Ahmed, M S A McEvoy, D J Humphries, R K Illingworth, J D Inchmore, A P Pridgeon and S P Perryman to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-38.

Bonus points (to date): Somerset 4, Worcestershire 0.

Umpires: R Palmer and D R Shepherd.

New faith in Chappell

Sydney (Reuter) – Australia's selectors have kept faith with the players who inspired the country's recent triumphs and include only one surprise choice in their squad of 14 for the Prudential World Cup in England from June 9 to 25.

The all-rounder Trevor Chappell is recalled after a two-year international absence. Aged 30, he returns after a successful season in which he helped New South Wales to win the Sheffield Shield by scoring 633 runs and taking 27 wickets at an average of 17.85.

Chappell's international debut in 1980-81 was marked by controversy when he was told by his brother Greg, Australia's captain, to bowl underarm in a one-day match when New Zealand needed six to draw off the last ball.

When Chappell won his only three Test caps in England two years ago he looked out of his depth but fielded superbly. This, with his *experience of English conditions*, influenced his recall ahead of the all-rounder, Ken Macleay.

"The way I worked it out it was to be me or Ken Macleary and I knew I had more year's experience in Tests and Sheffield Sheild", Chappell said "This is the biggest thrill apart from my 1981 Test selection in England and helping bring back the Sheffield Shield to New South Wales recently".

Trevor Chappell: recalled

AUSTRALIAN SQUAD: K Hughes (captain), D Hookes, A Border, G Chappell, T Chappell, T Hogan, R Hogg, G Lawson, D Lillee, R Marsh, J Thomson, K Wessels, G Wood, G Yallop.

Second XI competition

Old Trafford: Lancashire II 271 for 5 dec; Northamptonshire II 259 for 7 dec.
Edgbaston: Warwickshire II 152 (P R Oliver 85, P Jarvis 5 for 47) and 54 for 1; Yorkshire II 327 (K Sharp 81, S J Rhodes 66).

● Oxford University provide only three of the Combined Universities' side which meets Kent in the Bension and Hedges Cup competition at Fenners on Saturday.

TEAM: R G P Ellis (Oxford), T S Curs (Camb) R J Boyd-Moss (C), S P Henderson (C, Capt), G Pathmanathan (C), P G Roebuck (C), J G Varey (O), C J G Doggart (C), M Cullinan (O, wkt), K I Hodgson (C) A J Pollock (C). 12th man J Carr (O).

GOLF

Boxall on a lonely route to the top

From Mitchell Platts, Versailles

Severiano Ballesteros threatened to stop playing in the £56,000 French Open tournament, sponsored by Paco Rabanne, here yesterday, claiming that his concentration was being disturbed by an *unruly crowd and photographers*. However, Ballesteros managed to get his act together to share second place with Carl Mason on 68, one stroke behind the surprise leader, Richard Boxall, of Great Britain.

Nick Faldo, Maurice Bembridge, Magnus Persson, of Sweden, and Charles Victor, of France, are on 69.

Ballesteros lost his cool beside the fourth green. He had struck a wayward fairway wood at the 533 yards hole and the ball finished deep in a bush: it took him two almighty thrashes to free it.

It was a position destined to bring a threatening look to his latin face and a group of photographers felt the backlash. The Spaniard angrily demanded that a marshal instruct the photographers to "stop taking pictures or I will stop playing golf."

The marshals were already struggling to keep the crowd behind the fairway ropes. Michael King, *who was partnering* Ballesteros, lost a ball at the first where, after consulting one marshal, he felt certain that it must have been picked up since it seemed to have landed on an adjoining fairway. King eventually took seven and in the circumstances he did well to finish in 70.

Ballesteros's outburst had two effects. It brought order to the crowd and galvanized his game. There is no doubt that Ballesteros can step on the gas by getting himself into a state of intensity.

From 15 feet he holed to escape with a six at the fourth. At that time he was two over par but he hauled himself back to level at the turn with birdies at the sixth and ninth from five and ten feet.

Ballesteros was now in full swing. He made birdies at all three of the par fives coming home and another at the short thirteenth where he hit a four-iron to eight feet. It brought him storming out of the pack.

Boxall, 22, a former England international player, came from nowhere to lead. He was the last player to finish the cause at La Boulie, by holing from two feet at the eighteenth for a birdie, he moved ahead.

He won his card to play on the circuit at last year's school and his 67, which included five birdies, represented his best round so far.

Bembridge overcame the boredom of a round which lasted almost five hours by watching the local bird life. A keen ornithologist, he noted hawfinches, firecrests and gold crests during the breaks between the shots but the birdies that mattered most to him were the three he extracted from his last four holes.

FIRST ROUND LEADERS: (GB unless stated): 67: R Boxall. 68: S Ballesteros (Sp), C Mason. 69: M Bembridge, N Faldo, M Persson (Swe), C Victor (Fr). 70: A Garrid (Sp), T Sieckmann (US), D Jones, M King, H Henning (SA), D Frost (SA). 71: T Johnstone (Zim), G Logan, S Martin, J Bland (SA), D J Russell, D Sheppard, P Barber, T Palmer (SA), D Goodman (US), R Drummond, M McLean, G Potter, E Dussart (Fr), M Poxon, S Daseu (It), R Darrieumerlou (Fr).

Miss Flom in series of woes

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

Barbara Helbig is poised to follow the example of her compatriot, *Bernard Langer. A German has yet* to win a Women's Professional Golf Association tournament. Miss Helbig has forced her way into the lead in the Ford £20,000 event at Woburn and is playing well enough to stay there.

She returned a 76, one over par, in the 6,060-yard Duke's Course yesterday for a two-round total of 150 to lead by one stroke from Dale Reid (75 yesterday) and by two from another Scot, Catherine Panton (79), and the overnight leader, Cindy Flom, of the United States (80).

Solidly as Miss Helbig played, she owes her position partly to a calamitious nine by Miss Flom at the par-five 15th (401 yards). At that point the American led by three strokes and when she unleashed a superb tee-shot a birdie four seemed her probable reward. But she hooked a three-iron just short and out of bounds. It would have been better had the ball travelled three yards farther, for she was now overtaken by a series of disasters.

From an unplayable lie she was unable to drop correctly and had nowhere but a crater in which to place the ball. With one foot 12 inches higher than the other she first had an air shot with a four-iron and then moved it only inches at the second attempt. In due time she reached the green but seven strokes had evaporated with five contracts and she had to hole from four feet in the end to avoid double figures.

Apart from Miss Reid, her nearest rivals also finished shakily. Miss Helbig was well short of the 16th green with the wrong club, an eight-iron (she was bewildered by the change of wind direction), and she hooked into the trees at the 18th. There were few other blemishes and she had the power to extract birdies from three of the long holes.

Miss Panton similarly dropped shots over the closing holes and rather more depressingly. A hook into the trees at the 14th is an ever-present risk but to take three putts from 20 feet and 30 feet respectively at the 16th and 17th understandably reduced her spirits.

Miss Reid's 75 was the best round of the day. Against the general run of experience she played her best golf coming in, with a collection of five fours in the last six holes. She is probably the longest hitter on the tour and only the 14th (474 yards) of the three long holes were outside her birdie range. At the other two she got home with either a one-iron of a two.

SECOND ROUND: Leading scores (GB and Ireland unless stated): 150, B Helbig (WG) 74, 76; 151, D Reid 76,75; 152, C Panton 73, 79; C Flom (US) 72, 80; 155, M Thomson 78, 77; M Figueras-Dotti (Sp) 73, 82; 157, K Monaghan (US) 77, 80; J Forrest 78, 79; K Ehrnlund (Swe) 77, 80; J Less Smith 80, 77; 158 S Moon (US) 78,80; J-Smith 80, 78; 159, J Smurthwaite 78, 81; 160, B Huke 81, 79; S Mackenzie (Aus) 81, 79; 161, M Marshall (US) 80, 81; S Crowcroft 81, 80; D Dowling 83, 78; V Marvin 81, 80.

TENNIS

New Zealand have something in reserve at the end

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Dusseldorf

The seventh World Team Cup competition, the official championship of the Association of Tennis Professionals has fallen into an extraordinary pattern in its beautifully wooded setting on the road to Neanderthal. The only teams sure of places in Sunday's semi-final round are Spain, the 1978 winners and New Zealand – who are competing for the first time and, as second reserves crept into the draw only because Argentina and Czeckoslovakia both dropped out.

For six days this tournament, sponsored by Anbre Solaire, is played on an all-play all basis in two groups of four. Spain and New Zealand have both beaten France and West Germany: the latter 'wild cards' invited at the discretion of the organisers as distinct from the seven teams invited on merit. The Germans were admirably tenacious against, in turn, Spain (Manuel Orantes, Jose Higueras) and New Zealand (Russell Simpson and Chris Lewis).

Advised by Jack Kramer, the first executive director of the ATP, the Nations' Cup (as it was then known) attracted little attention when launched in Jamaica in 1975. But its revival, with a new format, at Düsseldorf in 1978, was the beginning of a remarkable success story. This charming, slickly organized eight-day team event, played at the same lovely location every year, was soon attracting crowds of more than 50,000 and gaining wide exposure on television. Among the players, it became one of the half-dozen most popular events on the calendar.

The winning team will fly out of Düsseldorf with about £97,000, compared with £129,000 for the winners of the 59-nation world championship for the Davis Cup. But it was the concept of the World Team Cup that originally caused apprehension and offence to the Davis Cup organizers, the International Tennis Federation (ITF). The Davis Cup was in the doldrums at the time, and Düsseldorf was seen as a threat to its status – and to that of national selectors, because nations qualify for the World Tea Cup on the basis of ATP rankings without reference to selectors.

But the success of the World Team Cup had a stimulating effect on the ITF. The Davis Cup was drastically reorganized with lavish sponsorship and regained its traditional status. Frightened no longer, the ITF recognized the value of the World Team Cup to tennis as a whole, and European tennis in particular. Since then, the ITF and the ATP have also had a marriage of convenience in the context of the grand prix circuit. The ATP is now so financially dependent on its older partner that, for the first time, there is a genuine chance that the ITF can gain control of professional tennis.

Among the enterprising features of the World Team Cup is its recognition that separate payments to leading players, a system against grand prix rules (which in this area cannot be enforced), should be made above the counter rather than under it. In an effort to cut out clandestine negotiations, the Düsseldorf organizers make graded payments – technically, appearance money – to any of the 20 most highly ranked players who accpet the invitation.

The beneficiaries this week are Higueras, Wilander, Noah, Teltscher, Alexander Mayer, Gottfried and Edmondson, whose individual fees range from £11,613 to £3,226. The system's virtues are not impregnable, any more than King David's were – but they do bring appearance money out into the open, make private negotiations less likely, and therefore deserve consideration by the grand prix council.

Yesterday, Damir Keretic, who has Yugoslav parents and a Yugoslav coach (Nikola Pilic), crushed Simpson. But Lewis did the same to Peter Elter and in the soft shadows of evening Simpson and Lewis beat two more Germans Andreas Maurer and Wolfgang Popp, in the doubles. Simpson takes the week's star prize, so far, because hustled Yannick Noah to defeat on a greasy court.

In the other groups the United States, Australia, Sweden and Chile have all broken even in two ties. This odd situation owes much to the fact tha injuries ruled out Gene Mayer (US) and Peter McNamara (Australia and have so restricted Anders Jarryd – the obvious Swedish No 2 behind Mats Wilander – to one apperance in doubles. Jarryd is recovering from a twisted ankle. These notes have contained no reference to Britain because they have not qualified since 1979.

RED GROUP: United States beat Australia 2-1 (US first): B Gottfried and A Mayer lost to M Edmondson and P Cash, 6-7, 7-6, 4-6 (crossed over from previous day); West Germany lost to New Zealand 2-1 (Germany first): D Keretic beat R Simpson (NZ), 6-0, 6-2; P Elter lost to C Lewis, 3-6, 0-6; A Maurer and W Pope lost to Simpson and Lewis, 3-6, 5-7; Spain beat France 3-0: M Orantes beat D Bedel, 6-1, 7-6; J Higueras beat Y Noah, 6-2, 6-1; Higueras and A Gimoncz beat Bdel and B Fritz, 6-4, 6-3.



Simpson: Week's star prize

Lendl yields to youth

From A Special Correspondent, Forest Hills

Ivan Lendl, concerned about his verbal exchanges with John McEnroe in the WCT final in Dallas last weekend, left his form behind and was beaten 6-2, 6-3 by Henri Leconte, a French teenager, in the thrid round of the Tournament of Champions here in New York yesterday.

Leconte had obviously studied the way that McEnroe beat Lendl in Dallas. He took up the attack from the start, volleying well and showing an aggression which knocked the defending champion out of his stride.

When Leconte took the first set it was regared that the surprise would stop there; but the French youth, encouraged by his success, sped to a 5-0 lead in the second set, having won nine successive games.

At this stage Lendl, fighting desperately, saved three match points and went on to break Leconte for the first time for 2-5 and then reached 3-5. Then he panicked when Leconte was leading 30-0. He misjudged a return that was going out of court, played it back into the net and Leconte was at match point again.

Leconte, who is under the wing of Ion Tiriac, served brilliantly. Until he lost his service in the seventh game of the second set he had dropped only two points on service.

There was a tidying up in the second round yesterday and Vitas Gerulaiis was the first to reach the quarter-finals with a 7-6, 6-4 win over Eddie Dibbs. Both are former champions and have contrasting styles. Gerulaitis is the powerhouse while the wily Dibbs prefers to play from the baseline, where he directs his shots with uncanny accuracy.

Guillermo Vilas, of Argentina, regarded by many as the possible winner because of his clay court skills, had a spot of bother with Van Winitsky before winning 7-5, 6-2. It needed all his efforts to turn the match his way when Winitsky took *a 5-2 lead in the first set.*

SECOND ROUND: S McCain, (US) bt W Fibank (Pol) 7-5, 7-6; P McNamee (Aus) bt L Stefanki, (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; J McEnroe (US) walked over J Velasco (Sp) Scr; H Leconte (Fr) bt MmArtinez (Bol) 6-4, 6-2; K Curren (SA) bt J Fillol (Chile) 7-5, 0-6, 6-2; G Vilas (Arg) bt V Winitsky (US), 7-5, 6-2.
THIRD ROUND: V Gerulaitis (US) bt E Dibbs (US) 7-6, 6-4; H Leconte (Fr) bt I Lendl (Czech), 6-2, 6-3.

Back with a vengeance

Perugia, (Reuter) – Virginia Ruzici, the top seed crashed 7-5, 6-1 against the unseeded American Kathy Horvath in the third round of the Italian Women's Open Championship here yesterday.

Miss Horvath, aged 17, in action again after a four-month lay-off with a back injury, was too good for the world number 12 whose slogging baseline tactics failed. Nerves betrayed Miss Horvath at the start but she never looked back after breaking the Romanian's service for the second time to take the first set.

THIRD ROUND: H Sukova (Cz) bt K Skronska (Cz) 6-2, 6-3; C Jolissaint (Switz) bt P Casale (US) 6-3, 6-3; K Rinaldi (US) bt I Buderova (Cz) 6-3, 6-1; L Arraya (Peru) bt Y Vermaak (SA) 6-4, 6-4; K Horvath (US) bt V Ruzici (Rom) 7-5, 6-1; A Temesvari (Hung) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 6-2, 6-0.
DAVIS CUP: Group A, First round: Monaco 3, Luxembourg 0.

A bad day for Britain

It was a day of gloom and despondency for most British players in the West Warwickshire hard court tournament at Solihull yesterday. The two home survivors in the men's singles were smartly removed from the quarter-finals and only two British players are left in the last eight of the women's event.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: First round: K Moos (Neth) bt E Jones 6-3, 6-8; R Mentz (SA) bt K Brasher 6-2, 6-4; C Drury bt D Freeman (Aus) 3-6, 6-1, 6-1; A Almansa (Sp) bt L Jacobs (SA) 6-4, 6-3; H Olsson (Swe) bt J Warringa (Neth) 6-2, 6-4.
SECOND ROUND: M Bladel (US) bt Y Flu (Neth) 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; R Mentz (SA) bt C Drury 6-1, 6-3; A Gabriel (Bel) bt S Rojas (Mex) 6-1, 6-4; S Walpole bt M Vandertorre (Neth) 7-6, 6-1; S Graf (WG) bt D Jarrett 6-4, 6-3.
MEN'S SINGLES: R Venter (SA) bt J Smith 7-6, 7-5; E Adams (US) bt G Urpi (Sp) 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; B Dyke (Aus) bt S Krulevitz (US) 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; J McCurdy (Aus) bt A Jarrett 7-5, 6-3.

IN BRIEF

JUDO: Neil Adams, Britain's world light middleweight champion, captains the British team at the European Championships in Paris next week. An Olympic title next year is the aim of Adams, aged 24, who, after his spectacular triumph at the British Open last month,, is expected to overcome strong Russian and French opposition to take the under 78 kilos European title, which he lost, after some controversial refereeing last year.

TEAM: Bantamweight (under 58 kilos) P Middleton, Featherweight (under 65 kilos) K Brown, Lightweight (under 71 kilos) C Bowles, Light Middle (under 78 kilos) N Adams, Middle (under 86 kilos) S Williams, Light heavy (under 95 kilos) N Kokotaylo, Heavy (over 95 kilos) M McLatchie, Open E Gordon.

RUGBY UNION: Steve Bainbridge flew off with the British Lions from Gatwick yesterday for New Zealand, having only been named the previous day as replacement. The other 29 Lions knew that they were New Zealand-bound seven weeks ago, but Bainbridge was summoned from Newcastle to London just over 24 hours before departure to replace the Cork onstitution lock Donal Lenihan, who withdrew when it was discovered he had a hernia.

Bainbridge said: "It's been hectic as well as unbelievable."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

County championship (11.0-5.30 or 6.0)
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Essex
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Surrey
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Derbyshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Lancashire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Hampshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Worcestershire
HOVE: Sussex v Nottinghamshire
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Warwickshire

Other match:
CAMBRIDGE: Cambridge University v Kent (11.30 - 6.30)

Second X1 Championship:
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Northamptonshire
HINCKLEY: Leicestershire v Yorkshire

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

Fourth division
Stockport County v Port Vale

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Port Vale v Derby (7.0); Sheffield Wednesday v Stoke.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Telford v Weymouth.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Redditch v Merthyr Tydfil.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SECOND DIVISION: Fulham v Cardiff City (at Chelsea FC, 7.45).

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: ABA national finals (Wembley Arena)
GOLF: WPGA Ford Classic (Worburn).

هكذا من الاصل

FOOTBALL

Television say their offer is withdrawn

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The BBC and ITV yesterday withdrew their offer of £5.4m to cover football on television next season. The decision came immediately after the League club chairmen, meeting at the Café Royal, London, had rejected their latest proposals but voted unanimously for the management committee to renegotiate a new deal.

John Bromley, the head of sport at London Weekend, said: "I don't think we will get a deal. We are bitterly disappointed. This is the second kick in the teeth we have had from football. We have spent seven months with people who cannot deliver and I don't want to spend another seven." Jonathan Martin, his counterpart at the BBC, said: "As of now the money is withdrawn and so is our agreement on shirt sponsorship. We start with a clean sheet."

After seven months of little more than tactical talks, it is as though the two sides are still encamped in their own penalty areas. The gap between them remains significantly wide and, as they enter extra-time, the need for them to meet in a centre circle of agreement is becoming increasingly concerning and urgent.



Mr Kelly admitted that "it is in the interests of both parties that we reach a successful conclusion" and added that he hoped the new discussions "could be arranged quickly, certainly within the next few days". It is clear, however, that the chairmen have booted the ball of contention deep inside television's territory.

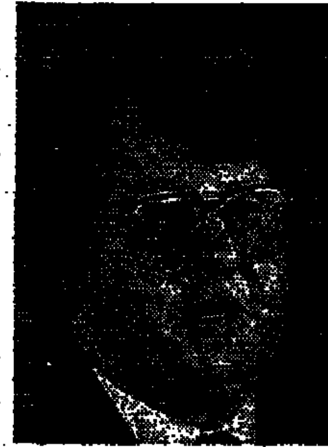
The BBC and ITV between them proposed showing a total of 70 matches live, 62 in part and eight in full. Jack Dunnett, the League president, replied for the chairmen. "We are prepared to accept the second half screening of four matches next season," he said. "If it is found to hurt the clubs concerned, they want the option to end the experiment."

The television companies insisted that shirt advertising should be no more than 16 square inches. Mr Kelly responded: "The chairmen feel that that is totally unacceptable. The concession on the size was not significant enough. They want the same size as allowed in Uefa matches, 32 square inches for the name and 22 square inches for a logo."

The television companies also offered a guarantee of £1m from overseas rights for matches screened abroad. The chairmen's opinion that the clubs should receive a larger share ran so strongly, according to Mr Kelly, that "they asked for it to be taken out of this agreement and dealt with as a seperate matter."

In spite of the withdrawal of the offer, Mr Dunnett is still optimistic about the outcome. "On February 4 they said they could not allow shirt advertizing but reason has compelled them to change their minds. We think we are reasonable people and hope that they will be prepared to meet us on other points."

Brian Winston, the chairman of Orient, added: "What we are seeking is a two-year agreement with flexibility, a well-balanced package that has room for both sides to make adjustments as they see how the public react to limited, live football on television. I think a controlled experiment in an area which nobody knows much about is the way to proceed."



Kelly at yesterday's press conference

Benfica on the brink of triumph

Benfica go into the second leg of the UEFA cup final in Lisbon on May 18 only a goal down to Anderlecht and with every chance of taking the trophy for the first time.

The Belgians, who won the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1976 and 1978, failed to capitalize on the numerous chances they created in their 1-0 first leg win in Brussels on Wednesday and may struggle to hold on to their slender advantage in the return.

They enjoyed a one-man advantage for the last 15 minutes after Benfica midfield player Jose Luis Silva was sent off but rarely showed the goal-scoring form which has taken them to the top of the Belgian first division.

The only goal, which ended Benfica's unbeaten UEFA Cup run, came in the 30th minute after Anderlecht's Franky Vercauteren, the Belgian international had curled over a cross, which the Danish forward Kenneth Brylle converted with a header.

The football deteriorated after the interval, with neither side finding any rhythm or fluency.

Luis Silva was sent off after he hacked down the energetic Brylle while the ball was out of play and Benfica's Petra and Anderlecht's Wil Hofkens were both cautioned.

ANDERLECHT: Munaron; Hofkens, Peruzovic, Olsen, Degroote, Frimann, Lozano, Coeck, Vercauteren, Vandenbergh (sub, Czerniatynski), Brylle.

BENFICA: Bento; Pietra, Humberto Coelho, Silva, Scheu, Manuel, Chalana, Diamantino, Alvaro, Frederico (sub Lopez), Filipovic (sub, Nene).

United's disposition still unsettled

By Nicholas Harling

The good and the bad news came in roughly equal proportions for Manchester United yesterday and both had a bearing on their likely disposition for the FA Cup final on May 21.

The welcome item of information came from Jim McGregor, the club's physiotherapist, who revealed that Steve Coppell does, after all, have a chance of facing Brighton and Hove Albion at Wembley. Coppell stayed behind for treatment on his knee injury when United players went to Majorca for a four-day break and that decision has been justified by his improvement.

Ron Atkinson, United's manager, had virtually ruled Coppell out last week and the irony of that is that Coppell might get a lot nearer the action than Atkinson, who learnt as he prepared to leave the Balearic island, that he may not be permitted to sit on the Wembley touchline.

Atkinson could yet be punished for his encroachment on to the Highbury pitch last Monday, in protest at the dismissal of Remi Moses against Arsenal, although he had understood that the matter would not be considered by the Football Association in time for a Wembley ban.

The referee's report on the incident has already been received by the FA, who by chance – an unlucky one for Atkinson – have a disciplinary committee meeting today. "This matter could be added to the agenda", and FA spokesman confirmed.

There was more angst in Manchester yesterday, but it is at City where their forward, Steve Kinsey, has a hamstring injury that may rule him out of tomorrow's crucial visit to Brighton.

Kenny Dalglish, Liverpool's Scottish international, has become only the fourth player to be twice voted Footballer of the Year by the Football Writers Association. Robson, of Manchester United, was runner-up and two other Liverpool players, Souness and Rush, were third and fourth respectively.



Coppell: recovering

Pelé the master

Pelé has been invited to help develop football in Sri Lanka, *The Sun* newspaper has reported in Colombo.

Enfield sticking their necks out

By Paul Newman

Enfield, who have only to draw at Runcorn tomorrow to make certain of the Alliance Premier League championship, will play the match in the attacking style that has brought them 93 league goals this season.

Eddie McCluskey, the Enfield manager, said yesterday: "We recognize that we're not the best defensive side in the league even at the best of times. We shall go to Runcorn and attack, because that's what we're best at. I think everyone acknowledges that we're the best attacking side in the league."

Maidstone United, who have fought a neck-and-neck race with Enfield all season, also play their last game tomorrow, at home to Scarborough. Maidstone will take the championship if they win by three goals and if Enfield, who undoubtedly face the more difficult task, lose by one. Runcorn, who beat Enfield to the championship last year, can still finish third and have lost only once at home this season.

Bill Williams, the Maidstone manager, admitted yesterday that the odds were stacked heavily against his side but plans to ensure that Maidstone beat Scarborough by the necessary margin. He has selected Ovard, a fourth forward, although he will be without Watson, captain of the England semi-professional team, who is suspended and will be replaced by Newsom. Enfield recall Holmes in place of Taylor, who is also suspended.

● A P Leamington look certain to win the Southern League championship tomorrow. Leamington, relegated from the Alliance Primier League last season, are one point clear of Kidderminster Harriers and both clubs play their last matches of the season tomorrow. Lemington are at home to Poole Town, currently second to bottom, and Kidderminster play Witney Town, who are in the middle of the table.

● Halesowen Town, beaten in the final of the FA Vase by V S Rugby, are one of eight clubs competing in a six-a-side competition, sponsored by Thorn EMI Lighting, in Birmingham on Sunday. The winners receive a £15,000 set of *floodlights*.

● Blyth Spartans retained the Northern League championship in impressive style last week when they played their final match of the season at Tow Law Town, who at one stage were themselves in contention for the title. Blyth had to win to make sure of finishing above Whitby Town, and did so 9—1. Bob Scaife, the Whitby secretary watched his son, Bob score two of Blyth's goals.

Peterlee are champions of the newly-formed second division, from which Gretna are also promoted. Three clubs, West Auckland, Durham City and Willington, are relegated, to leave 18 in the first division next season.

● Phil Smith, the South Liverpool manager, is resigning at the end of the season and Brian Parkinson, his assistant and goalkeeper, is to join Marine as a player.

WEDNESDAY'S FOOTBALL

UEFA CUP: Final, first leg: Anderlecht 1, Benfica 0.
SECOND DIVISION: Barnsley 0, Newcastle 5.
FOURTH DIVISION: Peterborough 3, Blackpool 1.
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Dundee 2, Rangers 1.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Boston United 2, Barrow 1; Dagenham 0, Bath 1; Wealdstone 4, Kettering 0; Worcester 1, Telford United 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Tooting and Mitcham 1, Bognor Regis 2; Harrow 4, Bishop's Stortford 0. Second division: Letchworth 2, Eastbourne United 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Matlock 2, Grantham 1. Postponed: Gateshead v Hyde United. President's Cup final, second leg: Burton Albion 1, King's Lynn 3 (King's Lynn win 3-2 on aggregate).
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dartford 2, Alvechurch 0; Fareham Town 2, Waterlooville 1; Welling United 0, Chelmsford 0. Midland division: Oldbury United 1, Cheltenham Town 2. Southern division: Andover 0, Fisher Athletic 2.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle 3, Blackpool 0; Sheffield United 1, Leeds United 1; Wolverhampton Wanderers 1, Sheffield Wednesday 3. Postponed: Huddersfield v Bury. Second division: Bolton Wanderers 1; Manchester City 1; Bradford City 1, Wigan Athletic 0; Port Vale 1, Wigan Athletic 0; Port Vale 1, Sunderland 1; Preston North End 1, Derby County 0; Middlesbrough 3, Notts Co 1.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Norwich City 5, Southampton 2; Oxford United 1, Arsenal 0; Reading 0, Chelsea 5; Tottenham Hotspur 6, Bristol Rovers 0.
TESTIMONIAL: Wimbledon 1, Queen's Park Rangers 2.
OLYMPIC QUALIFYING COMPETITION: Denmark 1, East Germany 2 (at Aarhus); Finland 0, Poland 4 (at Helsinki).
HUNGARIAN CUP: Final: Ujpest Dozsa 3, Honved 2.

Real preparation

Real Madrid, Aberdeen's opponents in the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup in Gothenburg next Wednesday, took a big step towards the final of the Spanish Cup by crushing Sporting Gijon 6-0 in the first leg of their semi-final, in Madrid on Wednesday. The other semi-final, first leg between Barcelona and Real Sociedad takes place tomorrow with both return legs on May 22.

YACHTING

Jeantot rules the waves

By Barry Pickthall

Sunday promises to be a great day for Philippe Jeantot, now leading the ten-strong BOC fleet towards the Newport finish line on the final stage of this 27,000 mile single handed round the world race.

It now looks a stong possibility that the young oil rig diver from Concarneau, France, who has dominated this race from start to finish, will be combining his 31st birthday celebrations with winning the BOC Challenge Trophy and the $50,000 prize money that goes to the first boat home on elapsed time.

Jeantot, and his 56ft cutter-rigged Credit Agricole, having built up an eleven-day lead over his nearest rival during the three earlier legs of this race, has extendd his advantage over the South African Bertie Reed to a 240-mile margin during the past week and with less than 300 miles between him and the finish, is expected to arrive early on Sunday.

A hundred miles astern of Reed, a great scrap is developing for third place on this final 3,500 leg from Rio de Janeiro between Richard Broadhead, of Britain, sailing the 52ft Perseverance of Medina and the Czechoslovak sailor Richard Konkilski aboard the 44ft Nike III. Yesterday's Argos satellite position reports showed that the two yachts were exactly the same distance from Newport.

Konkolski is now likely to take Class II honours on this leg as he did on the third stage of this race from Sydney to Rio. The overall honours in this class for yachts up to 44ft in length is now expected to go to the Japanese sailor Yukoh Tada, who has drawn ahead of his American rival Francis Stokes this week.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

TEL AVIV: Hapoel Games: 400 metres hurdles: Greaves (GB) 51.09 sec. 800m: 1, J McIntosh (US) 1:47.97; 2, O Katz (Is) 1:48.74; 3, D Harrison (GB) 1:48.89.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto Blue Jays 7, Texas Rangers 1; Boston Red Sox 7, Oaklands A's 1; New York Yankees 8, Kansas City Royals 1; California Angels 16, Baltimore Orioles 6; Chicago White Sox 3, Milwaukee Brewers 2; Cleveland Indians 11, Minnesota Twins 7; Seattle Mariners 5, Detroit Tigers 1.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Francisco Giants 7, Chicago Cubs 4; Montreal Expos 4, Atlanta Braves 1; Houston Astros 4, New York Mets 3; Philadelphia Phillies 9, Cincinnati Reds 4; San Diego Padres 10, St. Louis Cardinals 0; Los Angeles Dodgers 3, Pittsburgh Pirates 2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Play-offs: Conference semifinals, Western division: San Antonio Spurs 145, Denver Nuggets 105 (San Antonio win best-of-seven series, 4-1).

BOXING

SHIZUOKA, Japan: WBA flyweight championship: Santos Lacier (Arg, holder) beat Shuichi Hozumi (Jap), Ko 2nd.

FOOTBALL

ROMANIAN LEAGUE: AFC Brasov 0, Universitatea Craiova 0; CS Tirgoviste 0, Politehnica Iasi 0; Steaua Bucharest 0, Oradea Bihor 0; Chimia Rimnicu Vicea 1, Petrolul Ploiesti 1; Politehnica Timisoara 1, Dinamo Bucharest 3; Asa Tirgu Mures 4; Jiul Petrosani 0; Corvinul Hunedoara 2, Constanta 1; Sportul Studentesc 1, SC Bacau 0; OLT 0, Arges Pitesti 1.
SOVIET LEAGUE: CSKA 0, Moscow Torpedo 0; Shaktyor 1, Kutaisi 0; Dnepr 4, Ararat 0; Jalgiris 3, Metallist 2; Dinamo Minsk 0, Dinamo Kiev 0; Moscow Dinamo 0, Pachtakor 0; Nairy 0, Neftchi Baku 1; Chernomorets 4, Dinamo Tbilisi 1; Spartak 3, Zenit Leningrad 0.

TENNIS

TOKYO: International junior championship: Third round: J Clunie (GB) beat T Kubo (Jap) 6-2, 6-1.

BADMINTON

Singles medal hope for England

From Richard Eaton Copenhagen

England's hopes of a singles medal are suddenly and unexpectedly starting to rise. Three women came through to the last eight of the world championships in Copenhagen yesterday and no nation has more than that, which made up for the exit of the remaining two British men Kevin Jolly and Andy Goode, and the Welshman Phil Sutton.

It was Sutton's girl friend, Jane Webster whose progress had everybody on the edge of their seats in the Brondby Hallen. She won 11-2, 11-7, 11-3 against Nettie Nielsen, who won the German Open recently, and was rewarded with a seeding place, even though she lost to Miss Webster in their only meeting this season. Miss Webster missed two points to win the first game, evoking reminders of her jittery nine match points against the Japanese Tokharin, in the first round. After that, she was steadier than the teenaged Dane.

This, too, was a surprise, because Miss Webster is probably the most unpredictable of the English women. She also regards herself these days as a doubles player. Her partner, Nora Perry with whom she is defending the world title, walked into the middle of the stadium after the second game and hammered home in typically strident fashion, the need for consistency. "It's against my instincts, but I knew I had to do it," Miss Webster said. She now plays the second seed, Li Ling Wei, of China.

England's Noi Sally Podger who earned herself an 11-8 11-2 revenge victory for defeat a month ago by the Indian Noi seed: Zhang Ailing England's best hope of a medal is the placidly athletic Helen Troke, aged 18, the Commonwealth champion who beat Yoshiko Yonekura of Japan, 11-1, 11-6.

This, too, was a win that atoned for earlier defeats, but Miss Troke has improved so much that the seedings suggested she should do it. She plays Bok Sun Kim, the second Korean to cause a surprise by beating Kirsten Larsen the Dane who won the Taiwan Open, and on Wednesday, beat the fourth seed, Zheng Lili of China. The other Korean, who caused the career of former world champion Lene Koppen to end with defeat beat Karen Bridge, 11-4, 6-11, 11-7 after a fine call had uncharacteristically upset England's national champion when 6-4 ahead in the third game. England's officials were on their feet to protest, but other than to relieve their feelings it did little good.

MEN'S SINGLES: Third Round: [illegible] 8, 12-11; Li Lingwei (China) bt Myung Hee Chung (S.Kor), 11-5, 11-2; Yun Ya Kim (S.Kor) bt K Beckman (Eng), 11-4, 8-11, 11-7; J Webster bt N Nielsen (Den), 11-12, 11-7, 11-3; Han Aiping (China) bt C Magnusson (Swe), 11-3, 11-5.

TABLE TENNIS

Prean can be proud

England's Carl Prean, who is aged only 15, came through his second qualifying round match at the thirty-seventh world championships in Tokyo yesterday with great style.

Although he was sluggish in winning his first game against Belgium's Thierry Cabrera 21-19, he quickened his pace to win the second 21-19 and unleashed the full power of his backhand drive in the third game, taking that by an astonishing 21-1.

MEN'S SINGLES: First qualifying round: John Broe (Scot) bt J-C Avelar (El Salvador) wo; Thomas (Wales) bt O Liere (Guatemala) wo; John Hilton (Eng) bt D Scottini (Peru) wo. Second qualifying round: G Patino (Arg) bt N Thomas (Wales), 23-21, 21-19, 20-22, 21-19; C Prean (Eng) bt T Cabrera (Bel), 21-19, 21-9, 21-1; J Hilton (Eng) bt S Moiss (Sz), 21-14, 21-13; K Rodger (Scot) bt J A Mancia (El Salvador) wo; D McIlroy (Scot) bt M Wolter (Lux), 21-16, 21-17, 21-18; J Broe (Scot) bt A Mataika (Jor), 21-15, 21-12, 21-8. Third qualifying round: J Hilton (Eng) bt M Walker (Switz), 21-17, 21-18, 22-24, 22-20; K Rodger (Scot) bt Toriq (Iran), 21-16, 21-14, 23-21; I Lupulesku (Yugo) bt J Broe (Scot), 21-18, 21-17, 21-23, 17-21, 21-14; C Prean (Eng) bt J Gierloff (Nor) 21-12, 21-11, 21-13; B Griffiths (NZ) bt D McIlroy (Scot), 21-15, 21-14, 21-18. First round: J-O Waldner (Swe) bt A Meshref (Egypt), 21-14, 21-10, 21-14; Cho Yong Ho (N Korea) bt Han Gootzen (Neth), 21-19, 21-9, 21-12; N Takashina (Jap) bt J-M Maria Palas Pon (Sp), 21-8, 21-15, 21-11; P Birocheau (Fr) bt J Dvoracek (CZ), 12-21, 24-22, 21-10, 21-7.
WOMEN'S SINGLES: First qualifying round: J Grundy (Eng) bt E Brzezinska (Pol) 26-24, 19-21, 21-11, 17-21, 21-14. Second qualifying round: J Grundy (Eng) bt N Nader (Lebanon) 22-20, 21-10, 21-13; R Kasalova (CZ) bt C Dalrymple (Scot), 19-21, 21-19, 21-14, 21-19; K Beomger (Eng) bt C Chikhani Lebanon), 21-2, 21-8, 21-7. Third qualifying round: J Bellinger (Eng) bt B I Alejo (Dom Rep), 21-3, 24-22, 21-16; J Grundy (Eng) bt L Vignola (It), 21-11, 21-8, 21-13. First round: M Hoshino (Jap) bt L Urzica-Macean (Rom), 21-18, 18-21, 21-18, 21-19; E Urban (Hun), bt Lee Mi Woo (S Korea), 21-12, 21-9, 21-14; Kim Gyong Sun (N Korea) bt N Daviaud (Fr), 21-11, 18-21, 21-15, 21-8; S Grafberg (Fin) bt E Maier (Austria), 21-19, 21-14, 24-22.

CYCLING

Doyle returns to the amateur ranks

The British professionals chosen for the Milk Race, which starts on May 22, have expressed doubts over their ability to be fully prepared for the race which comprises 12 stages and 1,057 miles, John Wilcockson writes.

Tony Doyle, from Middlesex, the probable team leader, is so desperate for competition that he has entered an amateur 10-mile time trial in Kent tomorrow. There are only two scheduled professional races before the Milk Race. On Sunday, there is the Manchester grand prix, over 102 miles, then on May 15, the Professional Cycling Association are running a race of 125 miles in the Clee Hills, Shropshire, to occupy a vacant date in the calendar.

Bill Nickson, who is hoping to have a wrist plaster removed on Monday, plans to ride the Clee Hills race to prove his fitness. Another team member, Sid Barras, said: "We really need another stage race like the Sealink International. We will be only 85 per cent ready for the start of the Milk Race in Bournemouth".

Bolger's threat with Give Thanks

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

A feature of the flat racing in Ireland this season has been not so much the dominance of the O'Brien stable which is predictable, but the success of horses trained by Jim Bolger. This can only be good for a sport in which competition matters more than monopoly.

Today Bolger is spreading his wings and making a raid on the Esal bookmakers Oaks Trial at Lingfield with Give Thanks, who has already made a notable contribution to his haul this spring by winning at Navan and at Phoenix Park.

It is not easy to analyse her performances but three things count in her favour. Firstly she is in good form; secondly she copes well with heavy ground, which will prevail at Lingfield. Thirdly, being by Relko and out of a Parthia mare, she is bred to stay a mile and a half without trouble.

Bolger tried to win this race two years ago with Condessa but the gamble failed.

This time Give Thanks can make his journey worthwhile at the expense of Ghaiya, Road To The Top and Hardihostess. Road To The Top and Hardihostess are closely related; the former is by Shirley Heights, while the latter is a half sister to the same horse who won the Derby in 1978.

Road To The Top must have shown promise last summer because she started favourite for her only race at Ascot in July. Had Dick Hern's stable struck form, confidence behind her would be greater.

Ghaiya won over a mile at Goodwood last September. Lester Piggott, who rode Tants to victory in the corresponding race a year ago, has been engaged to ride Ghaiya and she could easily turn out to be the main challenge to Give Thanks.

At Salisbury yesterday the Stewards were in an unforgiving mood for the second day in succession. On Wednesday they suspended Greville Starkie for six days for careless riding in the last race and yesterday Paul Cook received the same treatment (from May 14 to 19) for the same reason after an incident in the Dorset Handicap.

Riding Nothing Blue, Cook made no visible attempt to prevent his mount from hanging to his left and into Tropical Red, who was hampered badly while passing the one furlong marker. Indeed, it could be argued that Cook was lucky not to be deemed guilty of reckless riding, for he kept his whip in his right hand throughout.

Cook's effort was to no avail because Nothing Blue was passed in the last 100 yards by Merely A Secret, on whom the apprentice, Nicky Howe, shone. Merely A Secret is trained by Peter Walwyn, who returned home contented after also watching Hawa Bladi, a grey colt he trains for Prince Faisal and Prince Khaled, run out an impressive winner of the third and last division of the Wincanton Maiden Stakes.

Walwyn's brother-in-law, Nick Gaselee, made this a perfect day for their family by winning the Faust Lager Handicap with El Mansour who, by humping as much as 9st 10lb to victory in this ground, recaptured his sparkle of two seasons ago.

STATE OF GOING: Lingfield: heavy. Stratford: soft. Sedgefield: heavy. Thirsk: heavy. Bath: soft. Market Rasen: heavy. Hexham: heavy. Inspection 3pm today.

RACING: OAKS TRIAL AT LINGFIELD

A thirst for success: award-winning Jack Berry at his Cockerham stables

Reaping the rewards of growing up the Berry way

Moss Side Stables, Cockerham, North Lancashire. 104 acres of low-lying land reclaimed from the sea centuries ago. The ground is saturated by the recent torrential rain and casual water lies everywhere. You approach down a country lane winding its way from the M6 and the car lurches over bumpy road for the last half mile.

These unlikely surroundings form the headquarters of Jack Berry, the man who has already saddled 17 winners this flat racing season, more than double the number trained by Henry Cecil and John Dunlop. His achievement has earned him the April award sponsored by Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey.

Berry is a wiry 10st 7lb bundle of nervous energy with brown, darting eyes. His yard is immaculate. The trainer and his wife Jo built most of the 56 stables themselves. "We used to start at 4 am in the summer," Berry says. "Jo would mix the concrete." Now he has all the modern aids including an all-weather gallop, an indoor school, horse-walker and starting stalls and in the tiny office a newly installed computer stores the information necessary to run this thriving business.

The reasons for his success quickly become apparent. A love of horses has dominated his life. He developed his acute sense of survival at an early age in the concrete jungle of Leeds, where he was born together with six brothers and sisters. But at 12 he ran away to Tadcaster.

"There was an old boy called Bob Tate. I used to ride showjumping ponies for him. Then he bought a shop in Towton so I went too. I started working at Charlie Hall's stables as well. Then they came looking for me. I hid on a rooftop for two days until they went away."

Eventually a truce was called and the local authority and Berry's father Harry allowed the boy to stay, provided he went to school. The nearest was seven miles away. "I rode horses and mucked out in the morning. I then pedalled like mad to get there in time and back for evening stables. It was all right on Thursdays when the brewery lorry made its weekly visit. I'd hang on to the tailboard for a free ride home."

Thus Berry took the next step up his 46-year-old ladder. "I have always had a nose for business. I could have sold rice to a Chinaman in those days." On Saturdays he used to go wheeler-dealing in the local market. "I'd rent a cage for 6d. The stallkeepers used to let me have rabbits, kittens and puppies at an agreed price. I'd often sold them at a profit in half an hour."

All the time he was learning about horses, the tools of his longed for trade.

A career as a jump jockey launched Berry into his profession. He broke his back twice and once shattered his leg in five places during a 16-year period. Altogether he estimates he fractured 46 bones. "I once smashed three toes in the first race at Market Rasen and rode in the remaining five. The doctors weren't so vigilant in those days. Stan Mellor said 'For God's sake give up, Jack, your blood-stained footprints all over the floor are making me feel queer.' I hadn't noticed. I was high on adrenalin. Life's all in the mind, you know," he reflected, nailing a fundamental truth which ultimatley separates the winners from the losers.

Jack and Jo Berry make a formidable partnership. "I get all the limelight, but we've done it." During the long arduous years of the uphill climb life has always been fun. "Jimmy Fitzgerald, Jo and I once rode the first, second and third in the Isle of Man Derby. We drank a bottle of champagne apiece on the way home including the pilot. But I drew the line when Jimmy took over the controls!"

Adrenalin, application, knowledge and sweat have driven the trainer relentlessly forward. But this is no fly-by-night story. "We've always had a few good horses. Duffle Coat, New City and Glenzier Lad were all useful chasers, before I decided to concentrate on the flat. And the bookmakers were left licking their wounds after I Don't Mind, backed down from 12-1 to 15-2, had won a two-year-old seller at Beverley by five lengths on June 10, 1976."

The excitement of sheer, blinding speed excites Berry. "I love two-year-olds and sprinters. All I want is winners, winners and more winners."

Remarkably, Berry's first winner on the flat, Casualty Hall, was bought by the owner in response to an advertisement in *Horse and Hound*, which said: "Guaranteed sound and sure to win races". Berry says: "He was a savage sod. Dead sour and could he bite. But we sweetened him up." This story encapsulates the trainer's understanding of human and equine nature. It also highlights the ingenuity and resourcefulness of a man whose hard-earned knwledge and Yorkshire determination have transformed his childhood dreams into adult reality. He is hungry without being greedy, ambitious but not overwhelmingly so. Jack Berry is here to stay.

Michael Seely

Lingfield Park

Draw advantage: high numbers best.
Tote double: 3.30, 4.30. Treble: 3.0, 4.0, 5.0.
[*Television (BBC2) 2.30, 3.0, 3.30 and 4.0 races*]

2.30 WHEELERS' RESTAURANTS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,248: 6f) (7 runners)

201 2224-02 ANDROX LAD (D) (H.E. Shaik Hazza Din Zayed Al Nahayan) M Blanshard 9-7 ... P Waldron 7
202 30000-0 COUNTY BROKER (E Rawlinson) P Mitchell 9-7 ... G Starkey 1
205 1 ALAKH (D) (Miss M Sheriffe) J Tree 8-7 ... P Eddery 2
208 403-0 TENDER SOVEREIGN (Esal 'Commodities) G Lewis 7-13 ... M Thomas 6
209 004-2 MANINSTAR (M Jarvis) M Jarvis 7-12 ... W Carson 3
213 40004-0 MAURMAX (C Fitch) Pat Mitchell 7-7 ... B Crossley 4
214 0000-13 GOLDEN DECOY (W Ward) D Tucker 7-7 ... W Ryan 7 5

11-8 Alakh, 3 Ardrox Lad, 9-2 Maninstar, 6 Golden Decoy, 10 Tender Sovereign, 16 others.

FORM: Ardrox Lad (9-2) 2nd beaten sh hd to Best Bidder (rec 28lb) 8 ran. Haydock 6f h'cap soft Apr 13. County Broker (9-7) 9th beaten over 10l to Shasta Sam (rec 14lb) 10 ran, Doncaster 5f h'cap soft Mar 24. Alakh (9-0) won 2l from Maninstar (level) lost ground veered right 12 ran. Nottingham 6f mdn Stks heavy Apr 4. Tender Sovereign (9-8) 9th beaten over 9l to Mount Kellett (gave 2lb) 13 ran. Kempton 5f h'cap heavy Apr 2. Maurmax (8-12) 10th to Black Falcon (gave 4lb) 10 ran. Lingfield 7f h'cap heavy Apr 9. Golden Decoy (8-2) 3rd beaten 11l to Averon (rec 2lb) 8 ran. Warwick 7f h'cap heavy Apr 5.
SELECTION: Maninstar.

3.0 *ESAL STAKES* (2-y-o maidens: £2,432: 5f) (8)

303 BARNABY GRANDE (E Etherington) Pat Mitchell 9-0 ... D Dinsley 8
305 33 DANCING BARRON (C. R. Barron Ltd) J Dunlop 9-0 ... W Carson 5
307 JAMES EDWARD (R Popely) R Howe 9-0 ... B Jago 4
310 03 RUN RIOT (A Lansley) W Wightman 9-0 ... W Newnes 7
311 02 SHADES OF BLUE (Canewdon Consultants) 9-0 ... P Waldron 1
313 0 VAN EYCK (A Speelman) G Harwood 9-0 ... G Starkey 3
315 YOU'RE SO VAIN (Miss V Williams 9-0 ... A Murray 6
316 OUR GOLD DIGGER (P Wainwright) J Gilbert 8-11 ... B Crossley 2

4-6 Dancing Barron, 7-2 Shades Of Blue, 9-2 Van Eyck, 6 Run Riot, 20 others.

3.30 ESAL BOOKMAKERS OAKS TRIAL STAKES (Div III: 3-y-o fillies: £16,114: 1m 4f) (12)

401 .01- CORMORANT WOOD (R McAlpine) B Hills 9-0 ... S Cauthen 1
402 01- GHAIYA (Sheikh Mohammed) J Dunlop 9-0 ... L Piggott 4
403 -003-11 GIVE THANKS (Mrs O White) J Bolger (IRE) 9-0 ... D Gillespie 5
404 03110- HARDIHOSTESS (Mrs J Weal) M Stoute 9-0 ... W R Swinburn 3
406 01-30 WHITSTAR (S Crespi) M Jarvis 9-0 ... B Raymond 8
409 0401-20 WOODCOTE BELLE (S Orr) R Smyth 9-0 ... G Starkey 12
410 043-0 DAME ASHFIELD (B) (Sir P Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-9 ... P Eddery 9
411 000-32 EMERALD REEF (P Mellon) I Balding 8-9 ... J Matthias 2
413 0- ROAD TO THE TOP (Sir M Sobell) W Hern 8-9 ... W Carson 10
414 0-0 SARAH GILLIAN (Mrs G Kelleway) P Kelleway 8-9 ... P Waldron 11
415 0 SURREY RAINBOW (J Marsella) D Jermy 8-9 ... W Newnes 6
416 03- VILLARS (J Redmond) J Winter 8-9 ... B Taylor 7

11-4 Give Thanks, 7-2 Ghaiya, 4 Road To The Top, 6 Cormorant Wood, 10 Emerald Reef, Villars, 12 Hardihostess, Whitstar, 20 others.

FORM: Cormorant Wood (8-11) won ¾l from Cristalga (level) 18 ran. Leicester 7f mdn Stks good to soft Oct 12. Ghaiya (8-8) won 1½l from Northern Script (level) 12 ran. Goodwood 1m Stks good to firm Sept 10. Give Thanks (8-9) won 3l from Observatory Hill (rec 2lb) 8 ran. Phoenix 1m 1f Stks yielding Apr 16. Hardihostess (9-2) 6th beaten 6l to Axkesnish (rec 6lb) 11 ran. Doncaster 1m h'cap firm Sep 11. Woodcote Belle (8-10) 7th beaten 23l to Jolly Bay (rec 5lb) with Dame Ashfield (rec 5lb) not in first 9 of 17. Newmarket 1m 2f Stks good to soft Apr 29. Road To The Top (8-11) 6th beaten 5l to Habibti (level) 9 ran. Ascot 6 f mdn Stks good to firm July 23. Villars (8-8) 3rd btn 7l to Sackford (level) 14 ran. Sandown 7f Stks soft Oct 20.
SELECTION: Road To The Top.

4.0 TENDER HEART HANDICAP (£2,204: 1m 4f) (12)

501 11122-2 TWO HIGH (CD) (C Nicholson) R Houghton 4-9-10 ... J Reid 11
502 3000/00 PRINCE SANDRO (K Cundell) P Cundell 6-8-11 ... C Cox 7 2
504 /300-30 CANIO (D Ladhams) R Hodges 6-8-8 ... A McGlone 5 12
507 433-401 JANUS (D) (K Little) Mrs N Smith 5-8-2 ... B Rouse 9
508 000-000 PROFIT WARRANT (C) (Dr P Wu) Pat Mitchell 4-8-2 ... P Bradwell 5 8
510 033000- AL NASR (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) C Benstead 5-8-0 ... W Carson 7
512 0301-0 VAL CLIMBER (D) (L.C.S. 'Southern) D Oughton 5-7-13 ... M Thomas 3
513 23010-2 ASH KING (O D'Souz) W Musson 4-7-8 ... R Fox 5
516 004-400 WIDO (T Mills) D Mills 6-7-7 ... D Brown 7 6
517 00030-0 BARNABY SAM (B) (Mrs P Mitchell) P Mitchell 4-7-7 ... B Crossley 10
518 0/0404- NORTH BRITON (W Gredley) C Brittain 4-7-7 ... D McKay 1
519 000404- CALISOLON (C) (G Mitchell) Pat Mitchell 9-7-7 ... W Woods 7 4

9-4 Janus, 3 Two High, 9-2 Ash King, 6 Val Climber, 10 North Briton, 12 Canio, Prince Sandro, 20 others.

4.30 GINEVRA STAKES (3-y-o: £1,505: 1m 4f) (11)

602 04-213 HIGH HAWK (C) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Dunlop 9-1 ... W Carson 2
606 0200-0 GREAT PRETENDER (G Kaye) P Kelleway 9-0 ... P Waldron 5
609 000- QUEENSBURY JOE (Mrs D Carvalho) D Dale 9-0 ... A Bond 10
610 0 RAKE'S PROGRESS (P Doherty) D Laing 9-0 ... D Dinsley 7
611 000-0 SABHAN (Dana Stud Ltd) G Huffer 9-0 ... M Miller 1
614 0 SOBER SAM (Mrs C Notley) R Voorspuy 9-0 ... I Johnson 8
615 3000- SPARKY (Dr A Jones) A Jones 9-0 ... – 9
616 0-00 SPOT THE PATCH (Doublets Ltd) M Haynes 9-0 ... L Piggott 6
617 0 SWEEP UP JACK (B) (A Richards) C Austin 9-0 ... – 11
622 000- EMMA ALISON (Mrs D Watts) H Beasley 8-11 ... G Ramshaw 3
623 ETOILE D'ARGENT (S Gollogly) R Simpson 8-11 ... A Murray 4

4-7 High Hawk, 5-2 Spot The Patch, 10 Great Pretender, 12 Sabhan, 20 others.

5.0 SLEEPING PARTNER HANDICAP (selling: £1,547: 2m) (21)

101 04100/ FLEDGE (K Cundell) P Cundell 8-10-0 ... C Cox 7 12
105 000003- SWEET ANDY (P Wainwright) J Gilbert 4-8-9 ... W Carson 17
109 000340/ COLWAY BOY (V Young) O Jorgensen 9-8-6 ... D McKeown 3 7
111 0000-02 LADY EVER-SO-SURE (B) (Eversure Textiles) J Etherington 5-8-3 ... – 16
114 00/0 PIANOSO (Mrs E Richards) H O'Neill 6-8-2 ... D Dinsley 10
117 040000- XENIA (D Elsworth) D Elsworth 5-8-0 ... B Rouse 9
118 000401- SCOT BENNETT (B) (B Fincham) J Jenkins 5-7-13 ... P Cook 4
120 4/0240- SOLARIUM (W Musson) W Musson 5-7-12 ... Lesley Mellulsh 7 6
121 000034- GETTING PLENTY (J DAvies) M Pipe 4-7-12 ... R Hills 3 11
122 000000- SKYBRIGHT (C Booth) G Blum 5-7-12 ... G Carter 7 3
123 000000- STAR OF SALFORD (F LAndrigan) J Long 5-7-11 ... P O'Leary 6
127 0/0332- FIRM FOUNDATIONS (B) (G Yarrow) M Hinchliffe 6-7-11 ... M Miller 1
128 0/0020- MALLARD SONG (Dr A Jones) A Jones 9-7-10 ... – 2
129 0000/0- RAMO'S LADY (T Ramsden) A Bailey 4-7-10 ... – 5
130 030000- LANGLEY COURT (B Tyler) D Oughton 4-7-10 ... M Thomas 21
123 0/ SPANISH WAR (S Holden) R Voorspuy 7-7-9 ... R Still 19
133 00/00-0 COME PLAY WITH ME (Mrs D Atkins) R Atkins 6-7-9 ... – 14
134 MISS SADDLER (R Hodges) R Hodges 7-7-9 ... A McGlone 5 13
135 /0000-0 ROYALTY MISS (A NEaves) A Neaves 4-7-9 ... L Jones 7 18
136 0010-0 PIERROT AUGUST (J Scanlon) R Simpson 3-7-7 ... B Corssley 15
139 00000-0 FROGMORE SWEET (R Hefling) R Thompson 3-7-7 ... – 20

7-2 Lady Ever-So-Sure, 4 Scot Bennett, 9-2 Getting Plenty, 6 Firm Foundations, 8 Solarium, Mallard Song, 10 Sweet Andy, 12 Fledge, 20 others.

Lingfield selections

By Michael Phillips

2.30 Alakh. 3.0 Dancing Barron. 3.30 Give Thanks. 4.0 Two High. 4.30 High Hawk. 5.0 Firm Foundations.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Maninstar. 3.30 Hardihostess. 4.0 Ash King. 4.30 Sabhan. 5.0 Firm Foundations.

Salisbury results

Going: Soft

1.30 (1.33) WINCANTON STAKES (Div.I 3-y-o: maidens: £1,406: 1m 2f)

HARBOUR BRIDGE b c by Blakeney – Solar (Mrs R Kennard) 9-0 ... B Rouse (8-1) 1
Strike Lucky ... P Eddery (11-2) 2
Master Puss ... B Procter (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.90. Places: £2.40, £1.60, £3.10. DF: £14.90. CSF: £34.36. W Wightman at Upham. Nk, 1½l. Kelathi (5-1 fav). High Renown (7-1) 4th. 14 ran. 2m 16.73sec.

2.00 (2.02) DORSET HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,799: 1m)

MERELY A SECRET ch c by Secretariate – Lady Mere (C Karpides) 7-12 ... N Howe (Evens fav) 1
Tropical Red ... D Dinsley (2-1) 2
Nothing Blue ... P Cook (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.40. Places: £1.40, £1.10, DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.20. P Walwyn at Lambourn. Sh hd, 3l. Jimjams (8-1) 4th. 6 ran. 1m 46.07sec. Nothing Blue fin 2nd disq, plcd 3rd.

2.30 (2.37) FAUST LAGER HANDICAP £2,788: 7f)

EL MANSOUR b g by Tower Walk – Gay Amanda (P Newton) 4-9-10 ... W Carson (6-1) 1
Tin Boy ... P Eddery (8-1) 2
Sound of the Sea ... W Ryan (14-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £14.30. Places: £4.50, £2.70, £4.30. DF: £91.10. CSF: £76.30. Tricast: £839.33. N Gaslee at Lambourn. 1½l, 1l. Portogon (9-4 fav). Hello Sunshine (14-1) 4th. 13 ran. 1m 32.36sec.

3.0 (3.4) REDENHAM STAKES (3-y-o: maiden fillies: £1,288: 5f)

CLASSICAL VINTAGE br f by Stradavinsky – Spoiled Wine (Maj R Jackson) 8-11 ... P Eddery (7-1) 1
Street Level ... D Dinsley (2-1) 2
Netsuke ... S Cauthen (11-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.10. Places: £1.10, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £4.80. CSF: £32.30. R Hannon at Marlborough. Sh hd, 2½l. Country Breeze (14-1) 4th. St Helens (7-4 fav). 9 ran. 1m 05.97sec.

3.30 (3.39) EDDIE REAVEY AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o: maidens: £1,257: 5f)

PRINCE RAGUSA ch c by English Prince – Trapani (G Fletcher) 8-7 ... A Bond (8-1) 1
Miss Anniversary ... A Mackay (16-1) 2
Lacefield ... J Reid (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £5.70. Places: £1.70, £2.10, £5.20. DF: winner or 2nd with any other £2.30. CSF: £51.74. G Fletcher at Newmarket. 2l, 4l. Crystal Dancer (25-1) 4th. Arnolds Agent (4-1 fav). 11 ran. 1m 06.37sec. NR: Janicolane. 30p deduction in pound.

4.0 (4.5) WINCANTON STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o maidens: £1,404: 1m 2f)

VALUABLE WITNESS b g by Val de l'Orne – Friendly Witness (S Niarchos) 9-0 ... P Eddery (9-2) 1
Hooray Henry ... R Guest (10-1) 2
Light Show ... S Cauthen (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £5.40. Places: £1.40, £2.70, £2.60. DF: £33.00. CSF: £53.40. J Tree at Beckhampton. 8l, 2l. Santella King (10-11 fav) dead heated 4th with Lady Spey (12-1). 13 ran. 2m 18.04sec.

4.30 (4.33) CITY BOWL HANDICAP (£2,295: 1m 6f)

SUPPER'S READY br g by Nelson Man – Irish Wedding (R Cyzer) 5-9-11 ... W Newnes (15-2) 1
Shiny Copper ... B Crossley (8-1) 2
Marwal ... G Dickie (9-4 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £8.10. Places: £1.80, £2.40, £2.10. DF: £35.10. CSF: £64.82. Tricast £165.33. H. Candy at Wantage. 1½l, 8l. Hawthorn Arch (14-1) 4th. 13 ran. 3 min. 18 sec.

5.0 (5.1) WINCANTON STAKES (Div III maiden 3-y-o: £1,398: 1m 2f)

HAWA BLADI gr c by Nishapour – Nofertiti (Prince F Khaled) 9-0 ... S Cauthen (9-4) 1
Flout ... P Eddery (Evens fav) 2
Majors Cast ... B Crossley (11-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.50. Places: £1.30, £1.00, £2.10. DF: £2.30. CSF: £5.33. P. Walwyn at Lambourn0 ran. 4l, 1½l. Coombe Spirit (25-1) 4th. 13 ran. 2m 16.63sec. PLACEPOT: Not won.

Point-to-point results

COTLEY: Hunt: Red Windsor. Adjacent Hunt: Crozbridge. Open: Brent Mystery. Ladies: Gay Express. BFSS: Scotch Salmon. Maiden: Hill Express.

EAST SUSSEX AND ROMNEY MARSH: H: Jess Jim, A: Brian Vine. R: Boniface. L: Anvar. O: Timmie's Battle. M: Wroughton Castle.

RADNOR AND WEST HEREFORD: H: Scriven Girl. A: Another Orbit. O: Cinchid. L: Coney. R: Millstream. M: Westanova.

WEST NORFOLK: H: Highland Barclo. A: Rikki Tikki Tavi. R: Company Policy. L: Aingers Green. O: Pennine Paddy. M: Golden Magic.

BLINKERS FIRST TIME: Lingfield: 3.30 Dame Ashfield. 4.0 Barnaby Sam. 4.30 Sweep Up Jack.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Gold Cup Royal Ascot: Ballymanoch. All Engagements (dead). Low Tide.

BOXING: A DRESSING-DOWN FOR THE VESTED VERSION

Britain's unpaid pugilism is as archaic as Corinth

By Alan Hubbard

And then there were two. Since the middle of October, when he returned from Brisbane with the most successful English amateur boxers in history, the national coach, Kevin Hickey, has watched the Commonwealth Games team disintegrate. Tonight, of the nine who won medals, only the smallest, light-flyweight John Lyon, and the biggest, heavyweight Harold Hylton, are left to contest the ABA championships at Wembley Arena.

The despondent Hickey, with just over a year to re-assemble a fighting unit for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, describes the situation as tragic, the worst he has experienced in his 11 years in the post.

Inevitably four members of the Brisbane team have turned professional, including the gold medal winners Chris Pyatt and Jimmy Price. Two have retired and another, the middleweight, Nick Croomes, a serviceman, in in Northern Ireland, and unavailable.

While Hickey is resigned to the traditional difficulty of stemming the drain of talent into the professional ranks, he is concerned that amateur boxing's anachronistic attitudes may have helped denude any Olympic prospects.

"You can't blame any of the lads who have turned pro. We're is a recession and some were out of work. Had we moved towards some system of broken time payments, as they have in the United States, it might have made a difference. Additionally, the same recession has forced the ABA to cut expenditure on its international programme and squad training sessions, which makes things less attractive for the boys."

While there is hardly a more professional pursuit than boxing as witnessed on the Bruno bill at Wembley on Tuesday, amateur night at the same venue will be exactly that. Unlike many other sports which accept financial compromises, the vested version the noble art remains about as close to Corinth as one can get in these commercial days.


Lyon: the fly still rears.

The ABA seem stubborn and short-sighted both in respect of attitudes towards amateurism and their refusal, for the fourth year, to send a team to the European championships, which clash with tonight's George Wimpey-sponsored finals.Doubtless a trinket or two will be expected in Los Angeles but it is hard to see how they can be obtained without the necessary international experience.

There can hardly be a more frustrating job in sport than Hickey's. For instance, having seen his all-medal Commonwealth Games team decimated, he is excited by another young prospect, an 18-year-old light-middleweight, Roderick Douglas, of St. George's ABC, London who, he says, "has come from nowhere." Hickey says that Douglas can "hit, box, and take a shot. He's got the lot."

The trouble is, less altruistic eyes will also be sizing him up, and Hickey must hope that the potential star of tonight's show is willing to be hothoused for the Olympics and not tempted, as was Britain's most brilliant teenage amateur, Errol Christie, into the pro ring.

The Brisbane stalwarts, Lyon and Hylton, should both retain their ABA titles. It will be Lyon's fourth in succession, and Hylton again faces the man he knocked out in half a round last year, Horace Notice.

In the super-heavyweight division the huge British Transport policeman, Guy Williamson, is expected to dethrone the current champion Keith Ferdinand, of the Royal Navy, and Liverpool's Kenny Willis, a carbon copy of his professional brother, Tony, should win the lightweight title.

If Hickey can recruit the nucleus of a reasonable Olympic team after tonight he must hope that the Games themselves will be sufficient incentive to keep them together. But whether there will be the odd chord in Los Angeles reminiscent of Brisbane's triumphant anthem seems unlikely.

American lined up for Gumbs

Roy Gumbs, the British and Commonwealth middleweight champion, warms up for the forthcoming defence of his British title with a 10 rounds contest against Jerry Holly, for Orlando, Florida, who has won 14 of his 23 bouts, at The Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London on May 18.

The promoter Frank Warren had wanted to stage Gumb's title defence against Mark Kaylor this month after winning the right with a £20,500 purse offer but that has been put back to September as Kaylor took on a commitment against the American Bobby Watts at short notice on Tuesday.

IN BRIEF

Admiral's Cup entry

The Royal Ocean Racing Club has accepted challenges from 17 countries (including Britain) for the Admiral's Cup series which commences with a race in the Solent on July 27, John Nicholls writes.

Nominations for teams of three boats must be made by July 4. Britain are the holders of the trophy, last held in 1981, when 16 teams competed.

BOXING: The World Boxing Council (WBC) have said they will review a videotape of last Sunday's WBC world lightweight championship bout in Puerto Rico. They want to see whether the judges were correct to award Puerto Rico's Edwin Rosario a points decision over José Luis Ramirez, of Mexico.

RUGBY UNION: Tim Barnwell, the Leicester wing who suffered head injuries during last Saturday's John Player Cup Final at Twickenham, is reported to be making good progress

CRICKET: Gloucestershire, who had expected to make a profit this year, now anticipate a loss of around £50,000.

HOCKEY

Olympics at risk for Southgate five

By Sydney Friskin

Another crisis has arisen in England's preparation for the European Cup Competition in Amsterdam (August 19 to 29) from the withdrawal of five Southgate players from the training weekend starting today at Bisham Abbey. They have declined the invitation in order to concentrate on the European club championship at The Hague from May 20 to 23.

The players concerned are: Batchelor, Craig, Dodds, Kerly and Spray but Duthie the sixth member of the Southgate contingent may, on the advice of the England manager, Colin Whalley, have had second thoughts and could in the end report at Bisham Abbey for training. Last October these six Southgate players were among the 11 who withdrew from the England party in order to start training with the Great Britain squad, but this impasse was later resolved.

Clive Chapman, the chairman of England's selection committee expressed grave disappointment yesteday morning at this lastest setback to training plans." We regretted putting Southgate into trouble but we had priority and it is the only training weekend we have. We were even prepared to release the Southgate players on Sunday for their match against the England Juniors at Lilleshall, but this match has been cancelled and Southgate have now dug their heels in.

"We have not categorically said that failure to report for training will automatically lead to the players being dropped but obviously they are laying their careers on the line, particularly those who are on the fringe of selection. They could also be jeopardising their chance for the Olympic Games."

The Hockey Association have meanwhile invited six other players for training, five to replace the Southgate contingent and one as a substitute for Steve Green, of Neston.

NATIONAL HUNT RACING PROGRAMMES

Stratford

5.30 BRAILES CHASE (Div I novices: £1,644: 2m) (13 runners)
1 441 Late Night Extra 7-12-0 ... A Webb
5 ppp Flashy's Pal 6-11-7 ... G Charles-Jones 7
6 003 Jubilee Medal 6-11-7 ... J Francome
8 22f Lucyfar 7-11-7 ... S Shilston
12 000 Stormy Spring 6-11-7 ... P Scudamore
15 300 Artic Fox 7-11-0 ... –
20 432 Brains And List (B) 7-11-0 ... M Charles 4
25 f00 Chrysippos 6-11-0 ... J Suthern
27 0-p Fant's Girl 7-11-0 ... P Carvill
29 00f Hope Gap 7-11-0 ... J Akehurst 4
35 000 Mr President Wear (B) 6-11-0 ... J Burke
44 302 Spikey Bill 6-11-0 ... M Hammond 4
46 pff Tribal Frolic 6-11-0 ... G Davies
11-8 Lucyfar, 11-4 Jubilee Medal, 9-2 Late Night Extra, 7 Stormy Spring.

6.0 TYSOE HURDLE (4-Y-O novices: £690: 2m) (14)
3 000 Mollington 11-7 ... G McCourt
9 210 Bulring 11-0 ... M Williams
15 030 Rokotso 11-0 ... –
16 310 Super Brat 11-0 ... P Croucher 7
19 Crooner Queen 10-7 ... –
22 Jimmy Bay 10-7 ... M Furlong
23 Lauderhill 10-7 ... Mr Sharpe 4
24 Once Bitten 10-7 ... Miss Oliver 7
25 Orchestral Bay 10-7 ... J Burke
28 431 Qualitair Prince 10-7 ... J McLaughlin 4
31 333 Ty-With-Belle 10-7 ... A Griffiths 7
32 Via Oppidum 10-7 ... –
33 Wonder Dream 10-7 ... R Millman 4
34 Worlingworth Way 10-7 ... A Webber
15-8 Bulring, 3 Mollington, 9-2 Tarsus, 11-2 Qualitair Prince.

6.30 RADWAY HURDLE (Selling handicap: £769: 2m) (14)
1 p20 Magic Formula (B) 5-12-3 ... P Dever 7
2 120 Carflax 5-12-2 ... P Nicholls 4
3 000 The Knife 5-11-9 ... Miss S James 7
4 200 Alabama 5-11-4 ... M Elliott 4
11 021 La Seine (B) 5-10-11 ... F Byrne 7
12 000 Bumbeck 4-10-10 ... G Davies
16 0p0 Mr Sinclair 5-10-9 ... –
18 3-04 Brisbane 5-10-8 ... –
25 p0p Eggington (B) 5-10-6 ... Mr Macewan 7
27 022 Tacova 5-10-5 ... Mr Frost 4
28 p22 Pettistree 5-10-4 ... J Suthern
29 00p Wisemans Bridge 5-10-2 ... Miss Oliver 7
30 pp0 Sea Claire 4-10-0 ... S Morshead
33 p00 Willings Warrior 5-10-0 ... G Enright
11-4 Pettistree, 3 La Seine, 4 Carflax, 11-2 Brisbane.

7.0 RODDY BAKER CHASE (Handicap: £2,152: 2m 6f) (17)
2 220 Henry Kissinger 9-11-12 ... P Barton
8 p1p Richmede 10-10-8 ... P Hobbs
11 004 Gambling Prince 10-10-8 ... J Burke
12 p02 Masterson 8-10-8 ... S Morshead
13 040 Romany Count 11-10-7 ... R Millman 4
15 2-f0 Lucky Call 9-10-4 ... P Scudamore
16 2p1 Armagnac Princess 11-10-4 ... Mr Frost 4
21 0p0 Polar Express 8-10-0 ... S Smith Eccles
22 0-pp Abbey Brig 9-10-0 ... R Rowe
23 p42 Hobo 12-10-0 ... G Jones
24 1p2 Walnut Wonder 8-10-0 ... G Charles-Jones 7
27 013 Excelsior 9-10-0 ... M Hammond 4
34 42p Fancy Fellow 9-10-0 ... M Elliott 4
36 0pf Statist (B) 8-10-0 ... L Bloomfield 7
37 1-03 Master Nibble 8-10-0 ... A Webb
38 010 Major Gamble 9-10-0 ... Lorna Vincent
41 p04 Secorro 9-10-0 ... J Barlow
5-2 Henry Kissinger, 7-2 Masterson, 11-2 Hobo, 7 Walnut Wonder.

7.30 BRAILES CHASE (Div II novices: £1,644: 2m) (13)
2 2f1 Aldro 7-11-7 ... M Elliott 4
10 200 Sam Smith 6-11-7 ... P Scudamore
15 403 Artac Charter 6-11-0 ... Mr Frost 4
17 p2 Barrogil Castle 7-11-0 ... K Mooney
33 0p4 Lockwell Bridge (B) 7-11-0 ... –
38 403 Raise The Bid 6-11-0 ... J Suthern
37 00f Realert (B) 7-11-0 ... P Nicholls 4
48 00u The Surveyor 7-11-0 ... –
47 0/p0 Tom's Tears 8-11-0 ... R Millman 4
50 0p0 Whistler's Image (B) 7-11-0 ... R Crank
51 300 Wine Talk 6-11-0 ... –
53 00f Debt Follower 5-10-8 ... J Burke
56 0f0 Toucar 5-10-8 ... A Holder 4
6-4 Barrogil Castle, 3 Sam Smith, 5 Aldro, 6 Artac Charter.

8.0 SHELDON BOSLEY CHASE (Novice handicap: £1,665: 3m 2f) (15)
3 101 Laurensun 8-12-1 ... Mr Trow 7
4 011 De Pluvinel 10-12-0 (5 ex) ... Capt Prest 4
6 f0f Up And Down 8-11-6 ... R Rowe
9 000 Mr Lark 9-11-3 ... –
10 2p1 Saunders 9-11-3 ... G Moore
12 320 Woodlands Lad 8-11-2 ... –
13 030 Hy-Ko 7-11-1 ... P Barton
14 1p2 Cottage Rhythm 7-11-1 ... –
15 4f4 Purple Haze 9-11-0 ... P Scudamore
23 f1p African Prince 8-10-10 ... P Nicholls 4
32 0f3 Highway Sting 7-10-2 ... C McIlfatrick 7
34 ff2 Dargi 7-10-0 ... A Webber
36 02p Another Dragon 7-10-0 ... N Madden
37 040 French Bob 9-10-0 ... Mr Sharpe 4
40 000 Miss Pilgrim 9-10-0 ... J Akehurst 4
3 Laurensun, 4 De Pluvinel, 11-2 Saunders, 13-2 Dargi.

8.30 OXHILL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,783: 2m) (20)
5 204 Mossat 6-11-12 ... A Griffiths 7
6 00p Comedian 5-11-10 ... P Scudamore
8 000 Sea Pennant 7-11-7 ... R Crank
10 040 Just For The Crack 5-11-7 ... M Perrett
12 040 Fortune Cookie 11-11-6 ... S Jobar
15 14-0 Helton Tarn 7-11-3 ... M Charles 4
18 224 Skateboard 7-11-1 ... K Caplen 7
20 000 Chandeer 7-10-13 ... M Elliott 4
22 Peter's Quarter 8-10-13 ... –
29 4-03 Essi Condor 6-10-9 ... P Dever 7
30 230 Dobsons Choice 5-10-9 ... J Suthern
33 001 Ensigns Kit 8-10-9 (10 ex) ... M Brisbourne
34 010 Mister Lucky 6-10-8 ... K Townsend 7
36 200 Crowning Moment (B) 8-10-7 ... K Mooney
37 120 Carflax 5-10-6 ... P Nicholls 4
38 333 Princeton (B) 6-10-5 ... –
39 020 Sarsfield 6-10-5 ... S Morshead
40 440 Mr Crockford 6-10-4 ... P Richards
42 200 Long John 8-10-4 ... V McKevitt 4
44 040 Rags 7-10-3 ... A Webb
7-2 Just For The Crack, 9-2 Sarsfield, 5 Comedian, 6 Mossat.

STRATFORD SELECTIONS: 5.30 Late Night Extra. 6.0 Bulring. 6.30 Carflax. 7.0 Masterson. 7.30 Sam Smith. 8.0 Laurensun. 8.30 Just For The Crack.

Sedgefield

5.45 ELLERMAN BEE LINE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (selling handicap: £631: 2m 4f) (21 runners)
1 010 Miss Commune 5-12-2 ... G McCaskill
2 130 Beau Blondel 7-11-11 ... G Nichol
4 010 Mr Snow 8-11-10 ... C Bell
5 000 Hot Cross Bun 10-11-9 ... S Youlden
6 300 Ha'way Geordie 8-11-8 ... D Thompson
7 030/ Sharp Fiddle 6-11-7 ... D Jones
9 4 Rose's Pal 10-11-4 ... G Gray
10 020- Silken Touch 7-11-2 ... J Grant
11 00f His Reverence 7-11-1 ... W Stephens
13 p/00 Scarlet Silk 7-10-12 ... M Bowlby
15 0p0 Fernshaw 6-10-11 ... –
19 422 Sunspeed 5-10-7 ... S Kettlewell
20 010 Pot Party 5-10-7 ... L Warr
22 400- Bally-Hi-Ya 7-10-4 ... S Gray
23 000 Robera 9-10-2 ... –
24 000 Arab Merchant (B) 7-10-0 ... –
26 400 Undismayed 5-10-0 ... A Wilson
27 000 Oakley Cross 12-10-0 ... G McEnhill
28 000 Hello Cheeky 7-10-0 ... K Jones
29 000 Wampiray 9-10-0 ... D Fisher
30 000 Sin No More 8-10-0 ... –
9-4 Sunspeed, 4 Ha'way Geordie, 11-2 Mr Snow, Miss Commune.

6.15 MOWN MEADOWS HURDLE (handicap: £1,116: 3m 600yd) (20)
3 001 Gormahoe Boy 7-11-11 (5 ex) ... E McIntyre
4 321 Run And Skip 5-11-8 ... J O'Neill
5 000 Keebelly 7-11-3 ... C Grant
7 430 Ingham 11-11-1 ... M Pepper 4
8 420 Le Boeuf 7-10-13 ... S Grant 4
10 100 Mendaleek 8-10-11 ... Mr Thompson 7
12 200 Palm Cross 6-10-8 ... P Barry
15 0d0 Jymario 5-10-7 ... R Hyett
17 324 Fine Steel 5-10-5 ... P Tuck
19 000 Grey Morley 10-10-2 ... Mrs Radlem
20 pfu Lyne Mill 9-10-2 ... Mr Swindlehurst
23 000 Glen Willy 5-10-0 ... Mr Wade
24 032 Frosty Touch 5-10-0 ... B Storey 4
25 000 Rigorous (B) 12-10-0 ... Miss Newmon 7
26 p00 Many A Chance 8-10-0 ... S Charlton
27 000 Uncle Vanya 13-10-0 ... –
29 000 Cape Farewell 5-10-0 ... A Brown
30 uoo Lin Slipper 10-10-0 ... –
31 p0/p Bay Aglow 8-10-0 ... M Barnes
32 000 Sin No More 8-10-0 ... –
5-2 Gormahoe Boy, 3 Run And Skip, 5 Frosty Touch, 15-2 Ingham.

6.45 LEECH HOMES CHASE (novices: £1,219: 2m) (14)
1 1 Four Fathoms 8-11-11 ... C Pimlott
3 300 Box Of Tricks 8-11-4 ... M Pepper 4
4 033- Burma Pink 10-11-4 ... –
7 0fu Drummony 9-11-4 ... –
11 0 Exit Only 7-11-4 ... Mr Sellers 7
12 334- Gold Shoveler 8-11-4 ... P Tuck
13 042 Honours Even 6-11-4 ... N McCormack 4
14 400 Liberty Bodice 6-11-4 ... Mr Reid 7
16 000 Loch Ryan House 6-11-4 ... M Brennan
19 020 Ocean Cruise 8-11-4 ... D Dutton
22 404 Sandicliffe 8-11-4 ... Mr Thompson 7
25 04p Wellsill 8-11-4 ... A McGilligan 7
26 000 Walking Fields 7-11-4 ... K Burke 7
27 0f0 Tiernese 5-10-11 ... E McIntyre
8-13 Four Fathoms, 4 Gold Shoveler, 13-2 Honours Even, 10 Burma Pink.

7.15 GREENACRES CHASE (handicap: £1,154: 3m 600yd) (16)
1 430 Another Captain 11-12-7 ... A Stringer
2 01u Rednael 9-12-1 ... G Bradley
4 pp0 Parlon Belle 7-11-1 ... Mr Pitcher
5 u00 Impus 10-10-12 ... M Pepper 4
6 0fp Twilight 8-10-10 ... D Goulding
10 214 Unscrupulous Judge 6-10-6 ... K Jones 7
11 442 Artsum 8-10-5 ... N Doughty
12 10p Arctic Silver 11-10-4 ... J O'Neill
13 000 Young Sagert 10-10-3 ... N McCormack 4
14 231 Border Brig 12-10-3 (5 ex) ... C Pimlott
16 0p0 Glendyne 7-10-0 ... S Kettlewell 4
17 230 Spartan Flutter 10-10-0 ... C Grant
18 000 Mooralde 12-10-0 ... M Barnes
20 0-04 Red Gem (B) 7-10-0 ... S Charlton
21 00f Owen Luck 9-10-0 ... Mrs Raw 4
23 400 French Art (B) 11-10-0 ... –
-10-0 Rednael, 100-30 Another Captain, 5 Artsum, 13-2 Border Brig.

7.45 CHANCELLOR'S CHASE (handicap: £1,101: 2m 4f) (10)
2 233 Chebbie 10-11-9 ... P Caldwell 7
3 012 Kumon Sunshine 6-11-6 ... N Doughty
6 u02 Swift Albany 9-11-3 ... M Pepper 4
8 3pf Corker 7-11-0 ... E McIntyre
9 221 Portroe Prince 9-10-12 ... M Brennan
11 210 Snow Blessed 6-10-9 ... C Grant
12 20p Romeo-Paul 10-10-3 ... A Brown
14 22-f Mary Tudor 10-10-0 ... M Barnes
15 f00 Palace Royal 10-10-0 ... P Tuck
16 3f3 Royal Assent 9-10-0 ... S Charlton
85-40 Snow Blessed, 4 Portroe Prince, Kumon Sunshine, 6 Chebbie.

8.15 SEEDLING HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £524: 2m) (17)
1 f10 Francell 11-12 ... J O'Neill
2 201 Newlife Connection 11-12 ... G Gray
3 123 Penny's Dream 11-12 ... Mr Thompson 7
5 Aqua Verde 11-7 ... B Storey 4
8 000 Boy Sandford 11-7 ... P Tuck
9 000 Brummendelle 11-7 ... R Hyett
10 003 Camerata 11-7 ... S Youlden
11 p Cameronian Lad 11-7 ... C Grant
13 0 Columbeole 11-7 ... K Jones 7
15 0 Giro Streak 11-7 ... M Barnes
16 022 Jefferson House 11-7 ... D Dutton
17 000 Kingfisher Wonder 11-7 ... Mr Tutty 7
18 000 Kookaburra 11-7 ... C McSharry 7
19 00 La Bird 11-7 ... P Barry
27 Technical Merit 11-7 ... S Johnson 4
29 40 Tway 11-7 ... G Bradley
30 400 Young Adventurer 11-7 ... S Grant 4
15-8 Newlife Connection, 5-2 Francell, 9-2 Penny's Dream 6 Tway.

SEDGEFIELD SELECTIONS: 5.45 Miss Commune. 6.15 Gormahoe Bay. 6.45 Four Fathoms. 7.15 Rednael. 7.45 Portroe Prince. 8.15 Newlife Connection.

Jumping off

Newton Abbot's meeting today has been abandoned due to waterlogging. Stratford stewards will inspect the course today at 8am in the event of overnight rain.

● There will be an inspection at Hexham at 3pm today for saturday's meeting.

The clerk of the course Kit Patterson said, "if there is no further rain we have a better than 50-50 chance of racing."

Marfa favourite

Louisville (Reuter) – Marfa, a roguish colt with an unusual and aggressive running style, is the leading challenger in an undistinguished field of 20 aiming to win the Kentucky Derby, the first stage of America's horse racing triple crown, tomorrow.

Commercial property/Baron Phillips

London still high in the costs league

Confirmation that London is maintaining its pole position in the world league of office costs comes from the latest survey of commercial rents. Although rents in the City of London at an average £30 a sq ft are lower than both New York and Tokyo, the overall cost of occupying prime space close to the Bank of England rises to more than £50 a sq ft, almost 15 per cent more than for equivalent offices in Manhatten.

London, unlike most other major commercial centres, is plagued by high rates and services charges. In the case of City tenants' rate and service charges add a further 70 per cent to their rent bill.

According to Richard Ellis, which publishes the report, it is only Britain which suffers from this particular disease. In Glasgow, for example, the rent is less than half of a tenant's overall office costs.

In Glasgow, office rents are on average only £6.75 a sq ft, but rates and service charges take the total occupancy bill to £13.84 a sq ft. Even in London's West End a more reasonable £22 a sq ft rent is boosted to an occupance cost of £34.65 a sq ft after rates add an additional 40 per cent and service charges a further 17.5 per cent to the bill.

The only other world office centre which comes close to taxing tenants at a similar level is Singapore, which levies a 30 per cent rates charge.

Throughout Europe Ellis says that rental trends appeared to be static over the past six months although the two cheap cities, Glasgow and Brussels, have been edging upwards during the last six months. In comparison rents in Chicago and Houston have fallen over the past six months – with Houston recording a substantial 20 per cent drop.

Despite folklore to the contrary the Ellis International Rent Index shows that since 1975 rents in real terms have consistently failed to keep pace with inflation in most European cities. This is particularly true of Brussels, where between 1976 and 1983 rents have actually fallen by 1 per cent. Amsterdam and Frankfurt have also experienced slow annual growth.

But in Asia the reverse is true. Singapore, for example, has seen rents grow at four times the rate of inflation in the last five years. And in the principal office markets of Australia rental growth has also exceeded inflation.

> The overall cost of prime space near the Bank of England costs nearly 15 per cent more than equivalent offices in Manhattan

Ellis warns, however, that in the Far East and South Africa rental levels appear to have peaked since 1980 and over the last two years increases have been lower than inflation.

Perhaps what is most surprising about Ellis's latest World Rental Levels table is that it does not record any upward movement in City rents since the last survey was compiled. In the very prime areas a new level of at least £32 a sq ft is being established with agents' gossip predicting even higher deals on the point of conclusion at various locations around the City.

For some office tenants it would seem that the total occupation costs figure of £51 a sq ft is already outdated as they are finding the bill edging closer to £55 a sq ft for their space. It seems likely we shall see these higher costs reflected in Ellis's next survey in the autumn.

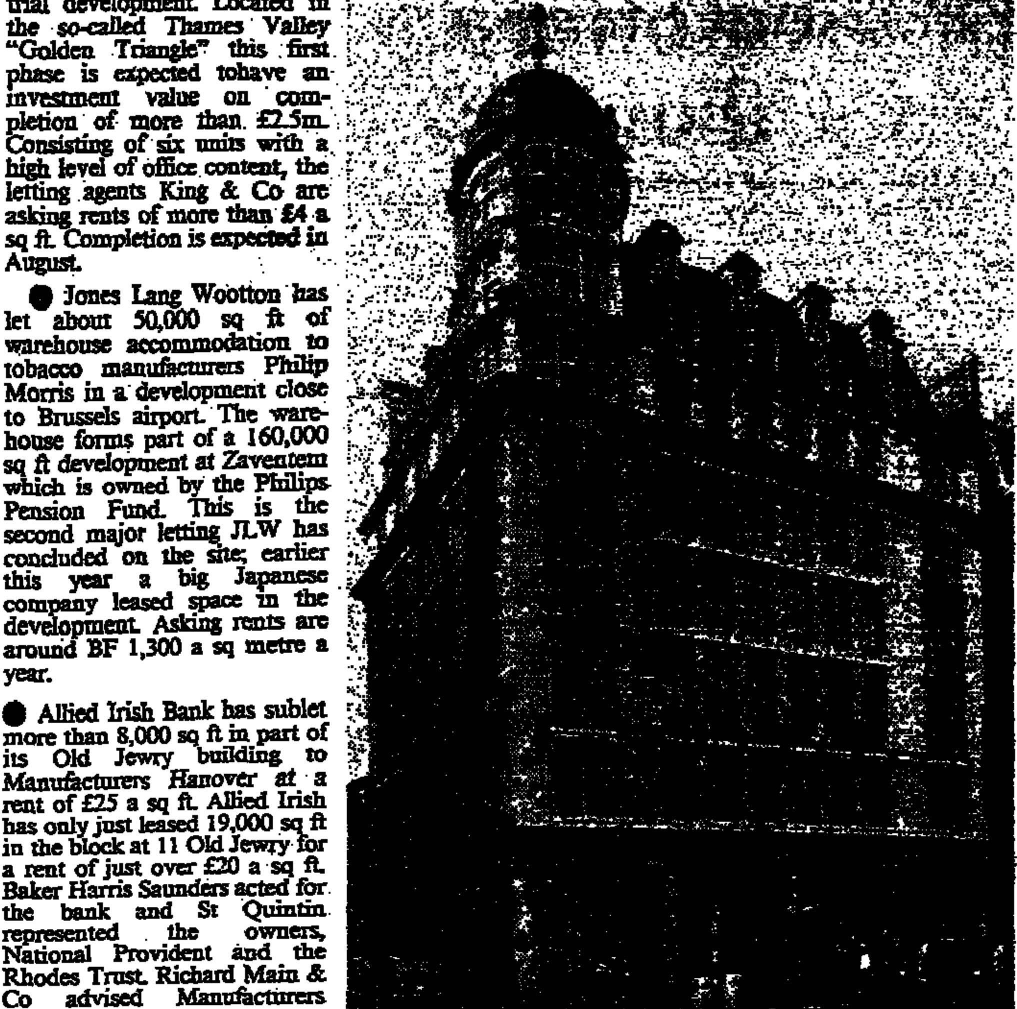
● The ICI Pension Fund has forward-financed the whole of Ashville Properties' 53,000 sq ft first phase Wokingham industrial development. Located in the so-called Thames Valley "Golden Triangle" this first phase is expected tohave an investment value on completion of more than £2.5m. Consisting of six units with a high level of office content, the letting agents King & Co are asking rents of more than £4 a sq ft. Completion is expected in August.

● Jones Lang Wootton has let about 50,000 sq ft of warehouse accommodation to tobacco manufacturers Philip Morris in a development close to Brussels airport. The warehouse forms part of a 160,000 sq ft development at Zaventem which is owned by the Philips Pension Fund. This is the second major letting JLW has concluded on the site; earlier this year a big Japanese company leased space in the development. Asking rents are around BF 1,300 a sq metre a year.

● Allied Irish Bank has sublet more than 8,000 sq ft in part of its Old Jewry building to Manufacturers Hanover at a rent of £25 a sq ft. Allied Irish has only just leased 19,000 sq ft in the block at 11 Old Jewry for a rent of just over £20 a sq ft. Baker Harris Saunders acted for the bank and St Quintin represented the owners, National Provident and the Rhodes Trust. Richard Main & Co advised Manufacturers Hanover.

● The one million shares which are being earmarked for private investors through International Income Properties' London flotation will give individuals the chance to invest in a bouyant sector of the US property market. IIP is a subsidiary of the Australian-based Lend Lease Corporation which has been developing property "down under" since the late 1950s.

A further one million shares are being placed with institutions, some of whom are already investors in IIP. These include the ICI Pension Fund.


Hambro Life is nearing completion of its £3m refurbishment of the Savoy Court office building, bought nearly three years ago for £3.3m. Joint letting agents are DE & J Levy and Michael Laurie & Partners.

IIP has a stake in four well established shopping centres in the US and it plans to use the proceeds, about $17m, to buy a further shopping mall.

It would appear that IIP, under the chairmanship of Mr Gerard Dusseldorp (an expatriate Dutchman) has the right strategy. For the time being the investment vehicle is ignoring the temptation to buy office or warehouse buildings in North America. The current portfolio consists of centres with a high reversionary potential and a strong income stream. By avoiding new developments IIP reduces risk to a minimum and immediately takes advantage of existing rents to judge how much to spend on upgrading and extending the shopping centres.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

A car to meet all your requirements

The most feared and most frequent question put to motoring journalists is "what car should I buy?". Individual likes and dislikes, number in family, budget restrictions, type of journeys, size of garage — the list of data required before even attempting an answer is endless.

But occasionally a car meets your personal requirements so perfectly that you tell all your friends about it and even feel put out when they receive the news with less than rapturous attention.

Such a car is the new BMW 320i, the mid-range model in the revamped 3-series which went on sale here last month.

There was considerable disappointment when the Munich company made only minor changes to the shape giving it a less chubby look than its predecessor. At a time when competitors like Audi and Ford are producing more eye-catching, aerodynamically efficient machinery, BMW has made only small gains in drag efficiency for the new 3-series but BMW insists that it wants to retain its distinctive appearance and, in any event, the rewards are much greater for concentrating on what goes under the skin.

The biggest improvement is the new suspension system. There can be few drivers of the old 3-series who have not experienced a few hairy moments on wet roads when the rear of the car broke away under acceleration. It is still possible to provoke a slide, but now the whole car feel much more balanced and controllable.

The two litre, straight six engine was already a by-word for its turbine-like smoothness. It appears in bigger, more powerful form in other BMWs, but for my money the two litre is by far the sweetest. Now fitted with Bosch L-Jetronic injection, a higher compression ratio, a new camshaft and tuned to deliver more power lower down, it offers a 12 per cent improvement in fuel consumption and seems quieter than ever.

It is this ability to cover long distances at high speed behind a power unit that never raises its voice above a whisper that is the 320i's most endearing asset. Allied to a new five speed gearbox with a slick change mechanism and higher ratios, it makes light of even the most depressing journey.

Unfortunately, because of a lack of suitably mixed motoring conditions during the test period I could obtain only an average fuel consumption figure appropriate mainly to motorway travel. But at 31 mpg that points to something around 29 mpg as being well within reach of most people and as much as 35 mpg for the growing number of "soft shoe" exponents.

Another bonus from the spring clean is an increase in the boot size and bigger front disc brakes.

BMW 320i: retaining its distinctive look

Vital statistics

Model: BMW 320i
Price: £8,845
Engine: 1990 cc 6 cylinder
Performance: Maximum speed 121.8 mph, 0-60 mph 10.1 seconds
Official consumption: Urban 23.7 mpg; 56 mph 45.6 mpg; and 75 mph 34.9 mpg.
Length: 14.2 feet
Insurance: Group seven

Cheaper or not?

Times readers are nothing if not persistent. Two months ago I reported that BMW (GB) was claiming that it was no longer cheaper for a British motorist to buy his new car in Belgium. Mr S. J. Nicholson, of Chiswick, London, wrote the next day to dispute the claim and to say that he proposed to back this with the result of an investigation he was then conducting.

This week he kept his promise with a Belgian/UK price comparison of most of BMW's range. According to his figures the 320i shows a saving of £1,743 (20 per cent), the 520i £2,202 (21 per cent), the 528i £3,153 (23 per cent), 635 CSi £4,589 (19 per cent) and 735i £3,647 (19 per cent).

Mr Nicholson points out that the Belgian list price is exclusive of VAT, which is not charged on cars purchased in Belgium for export. He has also used the exchange rate which is applicable to individuals transferring money to Belgium for private purchases.

However he does appear to have forgotten a few pertinent factors which make his figures less attractive: BMW charges a premium of about 8 per cent for right hand drive cars bought on the Continent. It justifies this by pointing to the extra cost involved in buying right hand drive components for only 10 per cent of its output.

In addition, the Belgian specification is well below the British. For instance the 520i sold here has a lockable glove box, electric exterior mirrors, tinted glass, a tachometer, adjustable steering and adjustable driving seat. And that BMW says accounts for another £236. Add £80 for the first two services which are free in Britain but not in Belgium and about £250 for the cost of collection and registration and on even my poor arithmetic that halves the saving to be made.

However as Mr Nicholson's figures were based on BMW prices in Belgium on March 11 and sterling has strengthened considerably since then, his evidence for buying your BMW in Belgium has also strengthened.

Multi-purpose

The Cortina may have been replaced by the trendy new Sierra, but its bits and pieces will figure prominently in kit cars for some time yet. The latest to use them is one of the most novel approaches yet. The Sherwood offers a choice of estate car, pick-up truck or van lay-out simply by switching bodies on the same chassis. The kit includes a massive steel chassis like the Land Rover's and a selection of fibre glass body panels.

The swop body system has been around for some time on trucks, but this is believed to be the first application for the ordinary motorist. The designer Mr Jim McIntyre also designed the Spartan two seater kit car of which more than 2,000 have been built in the past 10 years. It was also based on Cortina running gear.

Factory-built Sherwoods start at £6,200 with a 1300 cc Cortina engine. The kit version to convert a standard Cortina costs £1,285 including VAT. A new company, Sherwood Universal Vehicles, has been formed to exploit the design and is sharing premises with the original Spartan Car Company at Kirkby Lane Works, Pinxton, Nottinghamshire. There is already a six months waiting list for factory-built jobs and six weeks for kits.

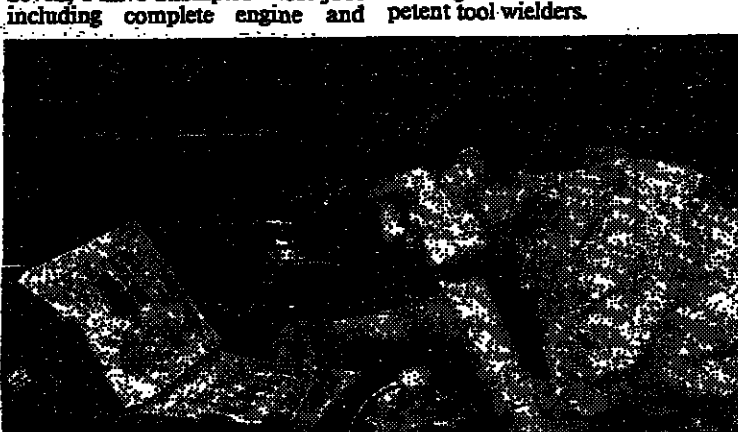
Help for DIY enthusiasts

DIY repairs and servicing is often the only way out for the cost conscious motorist. But the pitfalls are many and can result in even more expense when the local garage has to sort out a botched repair.

However, it should also be said that the amateur with a reasonable bent for handling tools and with access to workshop manuals can save hundreds of pounds a year. He will also derive personal satisfaction from his own achievements.

Starting with a 1937 Austin Seven, I have attempted most jobs including complete engine and gearbox reconditioning. But I never had the advantage of the latest DIY aids such as the AA's new Car Maintenance Course. Ring-bound in a strongly made, plastic carrying-case-come-reading-stand, it covers 260 British and foreign cars. Besides detailed instruction, it offers up to five layers of illustrations which peel off to show key components in successive stages of dismantling.

It costs £29.95 and while it can never convert a ham-fisted butcher into the complete mechanic, it will be a godsend to even half-competent tool wielders.



Getting to grips with self maintenance

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES LAW (CAP. 22) KENTFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (Liquidation under Court Order)

NOTICE is hereby given that the creditors of the above named Company of which Liquidators were appointed by a Court Order dated October 15, 1982 are required on or before the 30th day of June, 1983, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses, and descriptions and full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Christopher Dorrien Johnson and John Michael Dinan of Coopers & Lybrand, Cayman, International Trust Building, P.O. Box 219, George Town, Grand Cayman, B.W.I., Joint Liquidators of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidators, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1983.
CHRISTOPHER DORRIEN JOHNSON,
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: You do not need a special TV set to recieve this daily service of information about traffic conditions, the weather, sport and about the news generally.

6.30 Breakfast Time Presented by Selina Scott and Nick Ross. Includes the news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 6.42, 7.18 and 8.18; Morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32; Medical matters between 6.45 and 7.00; Keep fit (6.45 – 7.00); Tonight's TV (7.15 – 7.30); Gardening (7.30 – 7.45); Food and Cooking (8.45 – 9.00). Closedown at 9.00.

9.25 For Schools, Colleges: Student life; 9.52 Sex education; 10.15 Vitamin C; 10.40 Houses; 11.00Capricorn Game: serial; 11.19 Hyn o Fyd; 11.40 Life and social skills; 12.03 Let's Go; 12.15 Closedown.

12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial Report. And sub-titled news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The result of the national fashion awards competition are announced, and Mary Quant presents the prizes to the winners in the three categories – student, amateur and junior design; 1.45 Postman Pat (r).

2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Man Alive film about road accidents (r); 2.35 A film about Ghana; 2.55 Inside Story: A Run for Your Money. Juggernaut lory drive from Flextowe to Trieste, with Bob McAngus at the wheel.

3.55 Play School (see BBC2, 11.00am); 4.20 The New Schmoo: cartoons (r); 4.40 Playhouse: the Russian tale of Ivan the Ninny, staring Michael Thomas (r); 5.10 Breakthrough: How Howard Florey and his group of Oxford scientists turned penicillin into a safe, reliable medicine. The story is told by John Craven; 5.35 Roobarb.

5.40 News; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide, including sportswide at 6.22.

7.00 The Good Life: A girl student, who helps the Goods with the digging, shows an interest in Tom (Richard Briers) that is more than agricultural or philosophical in nature Irene Richard plays the student.

7.30 Odd One Out: A competition based on the contestants discovering which word, picture or music clue is the odd one out. Amusingly chaired by Paul Daniels.

8.00 The Time of Your Life: Henry Cooper recalls the night that was the climax of his boxing career – when he floored Cassius Clay with a left hook. The night was June 18, 1963. Other taking part are Gerry and the Pacemakers, Christine Keeler, and the vicar who banned jeans from the church youth club.

8.30 Are You Being Served? The golf professional Mr Walpole (Jess Conrad) is temporarily moved from the sports section of the store to the ladies' and *gentlemen's department and* he brings his sporting enthusiam with him.

9.00 News: with Michael Buerk.

9.25 Cagney and Lacey: New York police drama. Tonight, Chirs (Sharon Glass) tires to discover the identity of a murdered down-and-out.

10.15 The Isles of Scilly: They have been called The Fortunate Islands, and Andrew Cooper finds out why; 10.45 News headlines.

10.50 Amatuer Boxing: Harry Carpenter, at Wembley Arena, introduces the action in the George Wimpey Boxing Association Championships; 12.25 Weather prospects.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak (introduced by Gavin Scott), followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain (introduced by Lynda Berry and Nick Owen). News at 6.00, 6.15, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.11; Sport at 6.40, and 7.30; Local elections analysis at 7.10 and 8.10; TV spot at 7.50; guest celebrity at 8.20; Money feature at 8.40 and Time of Your Life at 8.50; Cookery spot with Michael Barry at 9.05; Closedown at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Port industries of Britain; 9.55 Snails and scorpions; 10.15 Homes and families; 10.35 Everyday French; 10.58 Sexual characteristics; 11.15 Farming; 11.32 Bicycles; 11.44 Horses and hearing-impaired children.

12.00 Topper's Tales: with the late Julian Orchard (r); 12.10 Rainbow; 12.30 Writers on Writing: Richard Hoggart interviews the novelist and playwright Susan Hill.

1.00 News from ITN; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: Lavenham. A visit to the delightful Suffolk village with the famous half-timbered buildings and interesting history.

2.00 A Plus: The Chinese pianist Fou Ts'ong talks about his recent visit to his mother country.

2.30 Film: Young Wives' Tale (1951*) The post-war housing shortage forces two young couples to share accommodation in this lightweight comedy. With Joan Greenwood, Nigel Patrick, Derek Farr and Helen Cherry. *In a small role: Audrey* Hepburn.

4.00 Children's ITV: Rainbow (r); 4.20 Porky Pig; 4.25 Animals in Action: Birds that cannot fly. With Keith Shackleton; 4.50 Freetime: We learn about a youngsters' newspaper called The Daily Dinosaur, published in Middlesborough.

5.15 Make Me Laugh: Bernie Winters and Barbara Windsor in a chuckle-raising contest.

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show: with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter. A live lively and newsy show.

7.00 Family Fortunes: Quiz, with the Boxes from Finedon, Northants, taking on the Joneses from Durrington, Wiltshire. The MC is Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 Hallelujah! The Salvation Army comedy series, starring Thora Hird, continues with a story of a plan to halt dwindling congregations by forming a band. Co-starring Patsy Rowlands and Rosamund Greenwood.

8.00 Hawaii Five-O: Death threats to a singer. With Jack Lord as Steve McGarrett.

9.00 Death of an Expert Witness: Episode 5 of this adaptation (by Robin Chapman) of the PD James detective yarn about muddy waters at a forensic laboratory. Tonight, Dalgliesh (Roy Marsden) catches Stella Mawson (Fiona Walker) in a lie. With Barry Foster and Andrew Ray. (See Choice)

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 The London Programme: The struggle between Ken Livingstone, the GLC leader and Reg Freeson, over the Labour candidacy in Brent East.

11.00 Shoot Pool: Further play in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships. 'Maltese Joe' Barbara, the favourite, plays Michael Vokes, a first-round winner.

12.15 Close: Sian Phillips reads a Browning poem.



Roy Marsden: Death of an Expert Witness (ITV, 9.00 pm)

CHOICE

● PERFECT SHADOWS (BBC 2, 9.30pm), Derek Lister's play is about an American astronaut who, having once walked on the Moon and blotted out the Earth with one hand, now finds that he can hardly put one foot in front of the other on his home planet without tumbling into some sort of domestic or professional crisis. More to the point, Earth, in the shape of his masters at NASA, is now blotting him out. As I read it, Mr Lister's play is trying to say something much more profound about the human condition than that this is a tough world for earthbound spacemen who cannot find anything Down Here to equal the marvels to be found Up There. Clearly, this is a world unfit for heroes like Chuck Miller (tautly played tonight by Michael J Shannon). But, by the same token, heroes like Chuck Miller are unfit for a world which demands much more from a man that the mere capacity for being permanently Moonstruck. Forty-five minutes is too short a time for a play convincingly to resolve the kind of complex issues that Perfect Shadows raises, but it is an important play that needed to be written

● DEATH OF AN EXPERT WITNESS (ITV, 9.00pm), the murder yarn which Robin Chapman has adapted from the P D James book, continues to tease intelligently after an initial tendency to let its passions get out of hand. It is now becoming the best-acted thriller serial we have seen on our screens for a very long time.

● Jack Emery's short story THE ANOREXIC CUCKOO (Radio 3, 9.10pm), about a clock cuckoo whose failure to perform has a long-term impact on its frustrated owners, is both funny and cruel, as well as being ultimately pathetic. Timothy West reads the story, and he *accommodates all three moods* with consummate ease.

● Other radio highlights: The BBC Philharmonic concert (Radio 3, 7.10 and 8.10) with works by Prokofiev (Lieutenant Kijé suite), Tchaikovsky (Sheila Armstrong singing Tatiana's Letter Scene from Eugene Onegin) and the Mahler Symphony No 4.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10); Maths methods; 6.30 Chemistry detectives; 6.55 Aluminium; 7.20 Quantum wave equation; 7.45 Computing.

11.00 Play School: The Groggs' Day Out, by Roy and Anne Bentley; 11.25 Closedown.

2.15 Racing from Lingfield: We see the 2.30, 3.00, 3.30 (Esal Bookmakers Oaks Trial Stakes), and the 4.00; Closedown at 4.15.

5.10 Work, the New Discipline: Open University film about how new technology has affected Sheffield's metal working trades (r); 5.35 Weekend Outlook: Some OU programmes this weekend are previewed. They include The Plough and the Hoe (part 2).

5.40 Film: The Falcon and the Co-eds (1943). The Falcon (Tom Conway) investigates a death at a luxurious girls' school. With Jean Brooks, Rita Corday.

6.45 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery: Shahi Korma.

7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.15 Comic Roots: The comedian Les Dawson returns to the Manchester slum of Collyhurst where he spent his early days (from BBC 1).

7.50 Did You See . . . ? Television forum, with Cathy Flower, Wendy Savage and James McClure discussing Inside China (Granada), Where There's Life (ITV), and Death of an Expert Witness (Anglia). And John Peel talks about rock music on television. With Ludovic Kennedy.

8.35 Gardeners' World: From Oakdale, Gwent. Featuring Jack Simpkins (they call him Jack the Carrott in the Sirhowy Valley) who grows bumper crops of vegetables. Last year, he was voted number one allotment holder by Practical Gardening magazine. He is now aiming for another prize-winning crop.

9.00 Entertainment USA: Jonathan King goes to Dallas and Fort Worth (in Texas) to interview Julio Iglesias and Hall and Oates. He also visits theme parks and country and western music bars.

9.30 Perfect Shadows: Derek Lister's play is about a US astronaut who went up to the Moon and now finds the experience seriously colouring his life on earth. Starring Michael J. Shannon who played Major Kim Kiley in the LWT serial We'll Meet Again. Kate Harper plays the astronauts wife and Nicola Hatch his daughter. (See Choice)

10.15 Brahms Plus One: The Gabrieli String Quartet, joined by Olga Hegedus and Kenneth Essex, play the Sextet in G major, Op 36.

11.00 Newsnight: bulletins and in-depth comment.

11.50 The Old Grey Whistle Test: Fun Boy Three (formerly of The Specials) in an entertainment recorded in Hitchin, Herts. Ends at 12.35.

CHANNEL 4

5.15 Acting with Anna: Another visit to Anna Scher's acting workshop for children in London. They improvize on the theme: Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per *cent perspiration. There are* also anecdotes from the youngsters on the theme of "Something I will never forget."

5.30 Countdown: Words and numerals game, with Richard Whiteley and Kenneth Williams.

6.00 Switch: The pop music show for the younger viewer, with live appearances by Spandau Ballet, UB 40 and Paul Haig. Co-presented by Yvonne French and Graham Fletcher-Cook.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: An 'alternative analysis' of the local election results; and a report of the pensioners' conference at Llandudno earlier this week.

8.00 What a Picture! In the fourth of his photography lessons, Professor John Hedgecoe demonstrates the art of flattering by the use of light and shows how to create pictures of the naked body that are both erotic and romantic.

8.30 Jazz on Four: Recorded at the 1982 Capital Jazz Festival – a concert by the Modern Jazz Quarter (Percy Heath, Milt Jackson, Connie Kaye, and John Lewis). Their numbers include Odds Against Tomorrow and Golden Striker.

9.30 Capstick Capers: The Yorkshire comedian Tony *Capstick has fun at the* expense of the British 'bobby'. With Earl Okin (singing his Mango number) and Helen Gelzer in strong support.

10.00 Cheers: American-made comey series set in a saloon bar. Tonight's story involves a Roman-type toga party in the bar. It is hosted by Norm. (Georg Wendt) who finds his job in jeopardy when a handsome playboy starts to take liberties with Diane (Shelley Long).

10.30 Kill or Cure? Whooping Cough – a Shot in the Dark. The second film in this series — which examines the side-effects of prescribed drugs, deal with whooping cough vaccine given to babies. Official government statistics put the risk of serious brain damage at *only* one in 100,000 immunisations, but experts put the figure much higher. We hear the story of the Kelly family, in Luton, whose six-year-old daughter was irreparably damaged by the vaccine.

11.15 Film: The Unsuspected (1947*). Thriller, with Claude Rains as the radio personality who commits what he considers to be the perfect crime – a murder – and then has to guard against the possibility of being exposed. With Joan Caulfield. Directed by Michael Curtiz. Ends at 1.05.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.45* Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.0, 8.0 Today's News. 7.25*, 8.25* Sport. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45* Thought for the Day. 8.35* Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50* Your Letters. 8.57* Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. A. N. Wilson, the writer.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Same Time, Same Place' by H. E. Bates.
10.45 Daily Service from St George's Church, Brandon Hill, Bristol.†
11.00 News.
11.03 Heartache Hotel. The story of a couple's dream to set up their own hotel.
11.48 Bird Of The Week.
12.00 News.
12.02 You And Yours.
12.27 My Music.†
12.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
1.00 The World At One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Moonstone by Wilkie Collins, dramatised in six parts (Part 2).†
4.00 News.
4.02 Just After Four.
4.10 Fit To Fly. Three Welsh victims of the Thalidomide tragedy talking.
4.40 Story Time: 'The Russian Interpreter' by Michael Frayn (5).
5.00 PM: News Magazine.
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 *Going Places.* The world of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick Of The Week. Programme highlights.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter From America, by Alistaire Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'The Hendyman' by Penelope Mortimer (5).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Sound Archives.
12.00 News; weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast; Inshore Forecast.

ENGLAND VHF: As above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 9.05-10.45 For Schools. 11.00 For Schools: Music Workshop. 11.30 Listen With Mother. 11.40-12.00 For Schools: Country Dancing Stage II. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather
7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert (†) Wolf-Ferrari, Liszt, Rossini, Dvorak; records
8.00 News
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Weber, Howells, Schubert, Tippett; records
9.00 News
9.05 This Week's Composer (†) *Brahms; records. Includes the* Variations on the St Anthony Chorale, and Serenade No 2 in A, Op 16
10.00 Malcolm Bilson (†) Fortepiano recital: C. P. E. Bach, Beethoven, Haydn
10.45 Massenet (†) records
11.20 Norfolk and Norwich Triennial Festival 1982 (†) Choral music: Peter Aston, Tippett, Vaughan Williams, Nicholas Maw, arr. Holst.
12.05 Chamber Orchestra of Europe (†) Concert. Part 1: Mozart, Stravinsky, Wagner
1.00 News
1.05 Six Continents
1.20 Concert (†) Part 2: Beethoven
2.00 Baroque Music (†) Frescobaldi, Pietragrua, Bassani, Handel, Bononcini, attrib Vivaldi, Blow, Purcell
3.00 The British Symphony (†) Elgar, Symphony No. 1; record
4.00 Choral Evensong (†) from Gereford Cathedral
4.55 News
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure (†)
6.30 Music for Guitar (†) Nikita Koshkin; Stepan Rak
7.10 Concert form Halifax (†) BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. Part 1: Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky
7.50 Poetry Now. New poems
8.10 Concert (†) Part 2: Mahler
9.10 The Anorexic Cuckoo by Jack Emery
9.30 Opus One (†) Piano recital: Zemlinsky, Shostakovich, Berg
10.05 Myaskovsky (†) Violin Concerto Op.44; record
10.45 The English Madrigal (†) William Byrd
11.15 News

VHF only - Open University 6.15 am Gibbon's Attack on Christianity 6.35-6.55 From Baroque to Classical 11.20-11.40 pm Social Work

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 John Hosken.† 12.00pm Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford, including 2.2 Sports Desk.† 2.30 Ed Stewart, including 3.2 Sports Desk.† 3.30 Racing from Lingfield.† 4.0 David Hamilton, including 4.2.† 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn, including.† 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.28 Cricket Desk. 7.30 Take Your Partners in the Radio 2 Ballroom. 8.15 Friday Night Is Music Night direct from the Hippodrome, Golders Green.† 9.30 Comediennes.† 9.57 Sports Desk.† 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket.† 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (Stereo from midnight). 10.30 Racing Desk. 1.00am Night Owls.† 2.00-5.00 Bill Rennells presents You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John with The Early Show. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30pm Newsabout. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell's Select-a-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance.† 12.00 midnight Close. VHF Radios 1 and 2 5.00am with Radio 2. 10.00pm with Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 with Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four-Hours News Summary. 7.30 Sing. Sing. Sing. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Parade. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 With Great Pleasure. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 5.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Portraits of our Time. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Teaching Disabled Children. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Love and Mr Lewisham. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Pleasures. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
† Stereo ★Black and white (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

BBC WALES 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Wales Today. 10.15-11.5 Come Out Come Out Wherever You Are. . . 11.5-11.6 News. 11.6-11.25 ABA Finals. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.0 News. 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Beechgrove Garden. 10.45-10.50 News. NORTHERN IRELAND 11.19-11.40 Closedown. 12.57-1.0 News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.25 News.
ENGLAND 6.0-6.22 Regional News magazines. 10.15-10.45 East – Weekend. Midlands – Midlands Tonight. North – Gardeners' Direct Line. North east – Coast to Coast. North west – Outlook. South – Don't Fence Me In. South west – Mightier than the Sword. (Henry Williamson). West – Day Out.

S4C

Starts 2.20pm Stori Sbri. 2.35 Interval. 3.35 *Root and Branch.* 4.00 *Gardners'* Calendar. 4.25 Old Country. 4.50 Clwb S4C. 4.55 Pili-Pala. 5.00 Sbri Celwydd Golau. 5.30 Loose Talk. 6.20 Countdown. 6.55 Gair Yn Ie Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Gororau. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd Yn Ei Le. 9.05 Cheers. 9.30 Soap. 10.00 Film: Moonlighting (Jeremy Irons) Polish construction workers building a new life in Britain. 11.40 Jazz on Four. 12.35am Gair Yn Ei Bryd. 12.40 Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: On the Buses (Reg Varney), TV comedy. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 8.00-9.00 Lou Grant. 10.35 Film: Hound of the Baskervilles (Peter Cook, Dudley Moore). Conan Doyle's tale dogged by spoofers. 12.10am Postscript. 12.15 Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada reports. 2.00 Film: Girl in the Headlines (Ian Hendry) Model is found murdered. 3.45-4.00 Shapes we live in. 5.15 Beverly hillbilies. 5.00 Make Me Laugh. 6.30-7.00 Granada reports. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Friday Night. 11.45 Film: Killing Stone. Writer wrongly convicted of murder. 1.35 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Bunny Lake is Missing. 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughter. 6.00-7.00 News. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Once is Not Enough (Kirk Douglas). The corruption of a film maker's daughter. 12.45am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Film: The City (Mark Hamill) Country singer is hunted by a killer. 3.55-4.00 Cartoon. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 11.15 Film: Death in Small Doses. 12.35 Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 The Chisholms. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Happy Days. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Report Extra. 11.00 Film: Loving in the Rain (Romy Schneider). Mother falls for a mysterious Italian on holiday. 12.45am Closedown.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Question of Stars.

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Murder She Said* (Margaret Rutherford) Miss Marple thriller. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Man Who Had Power Over Women (Rod Taylor) Talent scout with a weakness for women. 1.10am Celebration Bedford, Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: In Name Only. Marriage counsellors have problems of their own. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Film: Full Day's Work. Baker plans to avenge his son's execution by killing the jury. 12.35am Company, Closedown.

STV

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Mews. 2.30 Trapper John. 3.30-4.00 Make Me Laugh. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Here Here.8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 ? to 5. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 City of Angels. 12.30am Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News.2.30-4.00 Film: That's Your Funeral (Bill Frazer) Comedy. Brash newcomer undercuts a rival undertaker. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Bygones. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Look Who's Talking. 11.00 Film: Killer in every corner. Sudents become the unwitting subject of wxperments by a criminal psychologist. 12.20am News. 12.23 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.30 Film: Operation Cupid. 3.55-4.00 TT Time. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 News. 6.02 Make Me Laugh. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Making a Living. 12.30 pm Three's Company. 12.35 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: On the Buses. TV comedy. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel report. 6.30 Brady Bunch. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 8.00-9.00 Lou Grant. 10.35 Film: Hounds of the Baskervilles. As TSW. 12.10am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London exept: Starts 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width. TV comedy on the big screen. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: And Now the Screaming Starts (Peter Cushing). Bride is attacked by a severed hand. 12.15am New. Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30-4.00 Film: Last of the Mohicans (Randolph Scott) Hawkeye helps two British settlers. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Two of Us. 8.00-9.00 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Film: I'm the Girl he Wants to Kill. Secretary working lates comes face to face with a killer. 11.55 News. Closedown.

Britain asked to accept Seveso dioxin

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Italian Government has informally approached Britain to ask whether it could accept the consignment of poisonous dioxin wasted from the Seveso chemical disaster which "disappeared" in France last autumn.

The approach was confirmed yesterday by the Foreign Office, which said it was made through the Italian Embassy last week on behalf of representatives of the Lombardy region of Italy, where the explosion took place in 1976.

According to the Foreign Office, the Italians wanted to know wiich British firms had the capacity to destroy the dioxin. But no formal approach had been made by the Italian Government.

The Foreign Office refused to give details of Britian's response, but referred to two statements by Mr Giles Shaw, the environment minister responsible, in response to parliamentary questions. Mr Shaw described the 41 barrels of waste as "in principle" a most unwelcome import.

He said then that the Government had no trace of the waste having entered Britain. However, his replies were made on April 15 and 26, before the approach through the embassy on April 28.

The disclosure coincided with renewed fears that the waste may still be bound for Britain, in the light of comments made by the Italian minister responsible for the environment in an interview with a Milan newspaper yesterday.

Signor Loris Fortuna, the Socialist Minister for Civil defence, told *Il Giorno* that the Government was looking for ways of disposing of the waste outside Italy and also outside France, because it did not want to spoil relations with France.

He added that Britain might be willing to take the barrels because "they know how to destroy their contents with certainty."

Asked if a precise offer had been made, Signor Fortuna said the British Government had made known to the Italians certain "indiscretions" but was insisting that negotiations should be at an official level. The waste would not be treated like "contraband", he added.

Last night, the Department of the Environment could cast no light on Signor Fortuna's comments, but said that the main British firm which had the capacity to destroy the waste by incineration, Re-Chem in Southampton, had agreed to disclose any commercial approach. It had not yet done so.

The department added that county councils and Customs and Excise were on watch for the dioxin. It was "fairly safe to assume" that notification procedures for toxic wastes had worked and the dioxin had not been legally imported.

However, yesterday's disclosure will be regarded as significant as it appears to indicate that, despite much speculation to the contrary, the highly toxic Seveso waste had still not been disposed of.

Chile cool on requests for RAF landings

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The British Government has twice asked Chile for permission to use its territory as a stopover for aircraft flying to the Falkland Islands, according to Señor Miguel Schweitzer, the Chilean Foreign Minister.

It seems however that the Government in Santiago held out no hope of ending the need for the costly refuelling of RAF aircraft during the flight to and from Port Stanley.

Señor Schweitzer told a news conference in Santiago that his Government preferred to maintain its position of strict neutrality.

Mr Cranley Onslow, Minister of State at the Foreign Office denied making any such request, while in Santiago himself last week.

Meanwhile the Foreign Office last night continued to deny the suggestion that hopes of an early end to the Falklands War were dashed when the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano was torpedoed.

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, has accused Mrs Thatcher of ordering the sinking in order to "ditch" an agreement with Argentina.

Hever Castle armour suit fetches £1.9m

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A superb suit of armour made in Milan at about 1550 for King Henry II of France was sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £1,925,000. It fetched the highest bid in a £4m sale of arms from the Hever Castle collection.

From well below £1m there were only two bidders slogging it out. Standing at the side of the room in a plum coloured dress was Barbara Deisroth, Sotheby's Art Noveau expert in New York, with her ear glued to a telephone. She was relaying bids from a private collector who emerged as the victor.

The competition came from Howard Rickets, a leading London arms dealer, bidding on behalf of a Continental collector. A boyish figure, dressed in a grey suit, he stood in the centre of the room which was crowded with collectors, dealers and spectators.

He tried to slow down and then speed up the bidding. Then at £1.65m, he drew out a pocket calculator and did a quick sum before recording his last bid.

The price is by far the highest recorded for a suit of armour. The previous high was £418,000 paid at Christie's for a Greenwich armour made in 1613 which was ordered by Prince Henry of Wales.

The armour is richly embossed and chiselled with grotesque masks and and scrolling acanthus foliage. Aesthetically and historically it is the most significant armour remaining in private hands.

The sale was devoted to the extraordinary collection of arms and armour formed during a period of about six years by William Waldorf Astor, later Viscount Astor, to complement the little castle he had bought in Kent in 1903. It was at Hever Castle that Anne Boleyn grew up.

All the expensive pieces in yesterday's sale, which have been at Hever since the first decade of the century, will require export licences if they are to leave the country. The Tower Armouries pieces which would undougtedly have been refused an export licence, were all bought by Mr Howard Rickets.

He spent £330,000 on a seventeenth century suit of Flemish armor made for Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton. He is best known today as Shakespears's patron, but the Earl was also greatly interested in the colonial projects of the day,

The suits of armour were the most expensive feature of the sale compared to previous price levels. But the sale overall earned the present Lord Astor of Hever double the £2m that Sotheby's had been estimating before the auction.



Taking bids for King Henry's armour suit. Photograph: Henry Kerr.

Labour to formalize strategy on marginal seats

Continued from page 1

The function of the whole exercise is designed to channel maximum support from Trade Unions for Labour Victory and other sources of assistance into the seats that Labour Party officials believe can be won. To a degree, therefore, it serves as a barometer of optimism about the outcome of the election.

Catergory "B" constituencies are likely to get short shrift by way of outside support for local party efforts to wrest a further 45 seats from the Conservatives and Liberals, including Bermondsey, where the report notes laconically that there is "a Liberal presence".

For Labour to win the election, however, it would require the party to win or retain all its prime target constituencies and capture a sizeable chunk of the likely candidates for success. The fact that Labour's people on the ground do nt rate the chances of winning such constituencies sufficiently high to put them in the "A" catergory list suggests that many rank and file activists believe the election is already lost.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Mr Andropov's cracking form at question time

Mr Yuri Andropov opened his general election campaign yesterday with a sparkling performance at Prime Minister's question time.

He successfully used his famous skills as a communicator to impress both Mr Michael Foot and – rather surprisingly for so prominent an opponent of left-wing extremists – Mr Roy Jenkins. For both made clear their disapproval of Mrs Thatcher's unenthusiastic response to Mr Andropov's new proposals concerning missiles in Europe.

The proposals were timed to ensure a lively start to the press advertising campaign being launched by Mr Andropov's party during the election. But Mr Andropov's election campaign will be confined to Britain rather than extended to his native Soviet Union. Russian voters may rest assured that they will not be inconvenienced by a snap June poll.

The Soviet Government has made it known that, whatever the temptations to cash in on Mr Andropov's commanding lead in the opinion polls, it intends to soldier on until the end of its term of office which, under Soviet electoral law, lasts until eternity. Mr Andropov is one leader who does not intend to cut and run.

By launching his campaign now, Mr Andropov seemed to be in no doubt that Britain would be having a June poll, even though the incumbent whom he was trying to unseat, Mrs Thatcher, had still not announced it. This was another example of Mr Andropov's renowned foresight in psophological calculations. Back home, he shows the same lack of doubt about the actual results of elections. He is the David Butler of Russia, with additional infallibility.

Mrs Thatcher arrived for her question time in a House which was finally exhaustd by these days of waiting, but nonetheless impatient at having to endure still more. It was a thin attendance, many members being dispersed around the local hustings. Those who remained were slumped irritably across the open spaces, longing listlessly for the Prime Minister to end it all with a few words.

Mr Richard Mitchell, of the SDP, had the first question. The continued delay provoked from him an angry outburst. In fact, he was so angry that he had written the outburst down. "Is the right honourable lady aware," he asked, looking at his notes "that her decision to postpone telling this House whether or not there is going to be a general election until after she has had the chance to analyse the local election results shows clearly . . ." He paused, and further consulted his notes.

In the House, if you are going to say that something is shown clearly, it is always best to say immediately what that something is. Delay can be fatal. Nearly everybody started laughing. Fortunately Mr Mitchell eventually found his place in his outburst.

What it showed clearly, we eventually learned from Mr Mitchell, was that "she is the same as all the rest; a cynical person prepared to put party advantage before the good of the country."

Various Tories in marginal seats inwardly expressed the hope that Mr Mitchell was right. Mrs Thatcher dismissed the charge.

It was shortly afterwards that Mr Andropov made his first surprise gain with an average British floating voter: Mr Jenkins. The leader of the SDP complained that "Mr Andropov's limited but significant step forward appears to have been much more coolly received in London than in Washington or Nato headquarters? Would she be prepared to correct this impression?" Mrs Thatcher was not.

Mr Foot urged her "to consider it afresh." And Mr Cavin Strang, a Labour backbencher, spoke of "a significant Soviet concession". Mrs Thatcher insisted that it was "totally wrong" of the Soviet Unioon to suggest, as it did in these new proposals, that Britain's deterrent of last resort – our submarine-based nuclear weapons – should be included in talks which left out Russia's comparable weapons.

Mr Andropov was already showing the sort of cracking form which had enbled his party to win every election since 1917. It was good to see the old campaigner bouncing back after his recent setback in the West Grman poll.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visit St George's School, Windsor, 3.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, attends a meeting of the Trustees at Buckingham Palace, 11.30.

New exhibitions

The Art of the Print: traditional and modern printmaking techniques, E. M. Flint Gallery, Lichfield Street, Walsall; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45; (from today until May 28).

Photographs by Colin Baxter, Rozelle House, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (from today until May 24).

Last chance to see

The Revival of Dutch Ceramics, Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends tomorrow).

Jugs, Jars and Jollyboys: Tradition in English pottery; The Most Beautiful Art of England: Watercolours from 1750 to 1850; and A Special Friendship: Works acquired for the gallery with the aid The Friends: Whitworth Art Gallery, Whitworth park Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun; (all end tomorrow).

Selected works by Richard Long, Arnolfini gallery, Narrow Quay, Bristol: Tues to Sat 11 to 8; closed Sun and Mon: (ends tomorrow).

A Distant Prsopect: Aerial photography from the past 125 years: Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Colliergate, York; Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun and Mon; (ends tomorrow).

Music

Concert by Kevock Choir, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Concert by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Huddersfield Town Hall, 7.30.

Recital by staff of Leicestershire School of Music, The Rowans, College Street, Leicester, 7.30.

Concert by Hale Barns Festival Chorus and Chethams Brass Ensemble, All Saints' Church, Hale Barns, Altrincham, Cheshire, 8.

Talks, lectures

The Knight and His Armour, by S. M. Brock, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

The Trandescant Family and the Foundation of the Ashmolean, by Arthur MacGregor, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 5.

General

Newark and Nottinghamshire Agricultural Show, The Showground, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire, 8.30 to 6 (today and tomorrow).

A new gallery of Islamic art is opened today in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. It is named Mr Gerald Reitlinger, who gave the University of Oxford his Islamic collection. (Open Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4.)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,122

ACROSS
1 Deputy shortly has to compete with bereavement (8).
6 A horse to watch (6).
9 Saw Jack – a splendid fellow! (6).
10 Bookmaker for whom love isn't unusual? (8).
11 Film in which Clementine's father played a part (4,4).
12 What artist's models do after this rest (6).
13 Start to plead for admission (5).
14 Announcer using public address system (4,5).
17 Silvan setting for TV studios (4,5).
19 This driver for Rosinante? (5).
22 Seat for Bismarck in the Museum (6).
23 Last month one new team has made the final (8).
24 Scientific work on the subject of a gun-catch gets award (8).
25 Position of fencing I erect is wrong (6).
26 Country journalist going in all directions (6).
27 In this bird the colour's sharp (8).

DOWN
2 Record one's lines as part of serial (7).
3 This sort of questioning produces speedy discharge (5,4).
4 Patience, for example, is said to repay itself (6).
5 This offers food-value for some workers (8,7).
6 London borough's talking nonsense (8).
7 One Mediterranean port or another (7).
8 Regrettable squabble in a London park (6,3).
13 Do ornithologists ring these varieties? (4,5).
15 Engineer with bias is lying (9).
16 Sterne's corporal booked to the islands by boat (8).
18 For a painter sea-mist is a problem (7).
20 He tempts us to record about one hundred (7).
21 Harry's in South Dakota, it's said (6).

Solution of Puzzle No. 16,121

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Anniversaries

Births: Sigmund Freud, Pr'ibor, Czechosovakia, 1856; Luis Drago, statesman, Buenos Aires, 1859; Stanley Morison, typographer and historian of *The Times*, Wanstead, Essex, 1889; Rudolph Valentino, Castellaneta, Italy, 1895. Deaths: Cornelius Jansen, theologian, Ypres, Belgium, 1638; Alexander von Humboldt, explorer and scientist, Berlin, 1859; Edward VII (reigned Jan 22 1901-1910), London, 1910. 36 people were killed when the zeppelin Hindenberg exploded at Lakehurst, New Jersey, 1937.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Solvent Abuse (Scotland) Bill, report. Charities Bill, report. Dog Licences (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill andf Age Discrimination Bill, second readings.

Lords (11): Private member's Bill: Parochial Charities (Neighbourhood Trusts) Bill, secondf reading.

Bond winner

The winning number in the Premium Savings Bonds monthly draw for May for £250,000 is *20RT 715946*; the winner comes from the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Food prices

Those expecting to enjoy British asparagus during the first week of May will probably be disappointed. The cold, wet weather has delayed the early crop so supplies are short. Prices range from £1.80 to £2.50 a lb. English and French spring cabbage at 15-30p a lb is wonderfully crisp: cauliflowers are 25-40p each, but look for small, tight heads – the flavour is better. Salad ingredients are becoming more plentiful: English celery just coming in at 40-50p a head; superb quality English and Dutch hothouse tomatoes at 55-75p a lb; cucumbers getting cheaper with increased English supplies, 25-50p each. Safeway have a good display of Barlinka grapes at 54p a lb, which is under the average price. Spanish, Italian and Israeli strawberries are a good buy at 45-70p a half-pound punnet.

Marks and Spencer's poultry display is hard to beat from poussin weighing just over a pound at £1.09 a lb to large chickens up to seven pounds eight ounces at 83p a lb. They also sell boned fresh turkey breast with chestnut stuffing topped with streaky bacon and trussed to look like a large chicken at £1.70 per lb. For casseroles there are packs of ten chicken thighs at 89p a lb. Home-produced lamb is still expensive compared to other meat: Safeway are charging £2.39 for a whole leg but have New Zealand leg at £1.08 a lb.

Stamp Day

Today is National Stamp Day – the anniversary of the issue of the first postage stamp, the Penny Black, in 1840. An exhibition of stamps, including a display of George V high value stamps, known as "sea horses", opens today at the National Postal Museum, King Edward Building, King Edward Street, EC1. (Mon to Thurs 10 to 4.30, fri 10 to 4, until June 17)

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.88	1.80
Austria Sch	28.40	26.60
Belgium Fr	79.75	75.75
Canada $	1.99	1.91
Denmark Kr	14.26	13.54
Finland Mkk	8.94	8.44
France Fr	12.05	11.45
Germany DM	3.99	3.79
Greece Dr	135.00	127.00
Hongkong $	11.21	10.63
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.20
Italy Lira	2365.00	2255.00
Japan Yen	390.00	370.00
Netherlands Gld	0.00	0.00
Norway Kr	4.48	4.26
Portugal Esc	169.00	151.00
South Africa Rd	1.98	1.84
Spain Pta	216.50	205.50
Sweden Kr	12.27	11.65
Switzerland Fr	3.36	3.18
USA $	1.63	1.56
Yugoslavia Dnr	128.00	121.00

Retail Price Index: 327.9.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 5.2 at 695.0.

Roads

London and South-east: M27: Closed westbound at Portsbridge (Junction 12) 9am to 9pm; diversions. A287: Temporary lights at Odiham, Hampshire. M11: Only one lane open northbound from junction 6 to 7 (Harlow).

Wales and West: A5: Temporary lights on Holyhead to Betws-y-coed road at Llanfair, Gwynedd. A38: lane closures on Liskeard by-pass at Trago. M5: only hard shouder in use northbound at juncton 26 (Wellington).

Midlands and East Anglia: M54: Lane closures on Telford by-pass: diversion at junction 5. A429: Roadworks S of Wellesbourne, Warwickshire, from Loxley turn to Redhill. Extensive delays due to roadworks. A49/A456: temporary lights at Belmont island, Hertford.

North: A1: Roadworks on Alnwick by-pass, Northumberland, over River Aln. A6119: Lane closures at Whitebirk Drive, Blackburn, Lancashire. M6: Lane closures between Junctions 25 (A49 Wigsn) and junction 27 (A5209, Wigan/Standish), Greater Manchester.

Scotland: M9: Lane closures between junctions 5 and 7 (Grangemouth and Kincardine Bridge).

The papers

Commenting on a current survey to find out how Londoners want to be policed, the Daily Mail says: "We will not be surprised if (Londoners) express a preference for more policemen on the beat, including more specials, who . . . strengthen the citizens' links with the police . . . and help with the ethnic problem because many immigrants enter their ranks."

The Sun welcomes Mrs Thatcher's commitment to rate reform: "The basic evil of the rates is that they are based on bureaucratic convenience rather than the ability to pay". It would be fairer to finance local spending by a local sales or income tax, or simply to introduce direct funding from the Exchequer, the paper adds.

New law

Faster ways of dealing with drinking and driving come into effect today. As well as the introduction of new breath test machines, some legal loopholes which allowed drivers to escape conviction on technicalities have been closed.

Top films

Top box-office films in London:
1 (-) Tootsie
2 (1) Sophie's Choice
3 (2) Gandhi
4 (3) The Wicked Lady
5 (5) Local Hero
6 (-) The Beastmaster
7 (4) 10 to Midnight
8 (6) Heat and Dust
9 (7) An Officer and a Gentleman
10 (8) Tales of Ordinary Madness

The top five in the provinces:
1 Local Hero
2 Gandhi
3 The Wicked Lady
4 First Blood
5 The Missionary

Compiled by Screen International

Weather

A trough of low pressure in the W wil move slowly across most of the British Isles during the day.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, E Midlands: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, soon becoming drier, sunny intervals; wind S, light or moderate; max temp 17C (63F).

East Anglia, E England: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, becoming brighter later; wind SE, fresh, veering S, light or moderate later; max temp 17C (63F).

W Midlands, N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, soon becoming brighter and showery; wind SE, veering S, moderate; max temp 17C (63).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals, showers, heavy in places; wind S, moderate; max temp 17C (63F).

NW, cent N England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Cloudy, rain, heavy in places, becoming brighter, showery later; wind SE, moderate; max temp 15C (59F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Cloudy, rain, heavy in places, drying out later, clear intervals developing; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 14C (57C) inland, 12C (54F) on coasts.

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, rain, heavy at times; wind SE, fresh; max temp 11C (52F).

Central Highlands, NW Scotland: Cloudy, rain, heavy in places, becoming showery later, some clear intervals, wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 12C (54C).

Outlook for the weekend: Unsettled; fog patches on coasts and inland overnight; temperatures mostly a little above normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SE fresh, locally strong; sea moderate or rough. Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S, moderate to fresh; sea slight or moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 5.25 am; Sun sets: 8.31 pm
Moon rises: 3.37 am; Moon sets: 12.57 pm
New moon: May 12.

Lighting-up time

London 9.01 pm to 4.53 am
Bristol 9.10 pm to 5.03 am
Edinburgh 9.31 pm to 4.47 am
Manchester 9.17 pm to 4.54 am
Penzance 9.18 pm to 5.19 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; d drizzle; f fair; r rain.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	10	50	Guernsey	c	15	59
Birmingham	c	14	57	Inverness	f	14	57
Blackpool	r	13	55	Jersey	c	16	61
Bristol	r	15	59	London	f	17	63
Cardiff	r	13	55	Manchester	c	13	55
Edinburgh	c	11	52	Newcastle	d	08	46
Glasgow	r	11	52	Ronaldsway	c	10	50

London

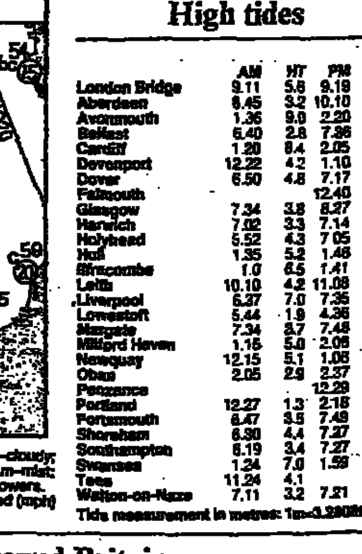
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19C (66F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Humidity: 6 pm, 53 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 2.6. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1014.1 millibars, falling.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Jersey, 20c (68F); lowest day max: St Abb's Head, Tynemouth, 7c (45F); highest rainfall: Culdrose, 0.75in; highest sunshine: Folkestone, 7.7 hr.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)





High tides

[illegible]

Around Britain

[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

[illegible]

هكذا من الاهل